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# ARAB TIMES

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## Hijackers fly out of Algeria

ALGIERS, April 20, (UPI): The hijackers of the Kuwait Airways jumbo jet flew out of Algeria today on a special plane, Kuwaiti sources said.

Sources close to the Kuwaiti delegation at Algiers said the air pirates "already have been flown out to an undisclosed destination" aboard a special plane, in line with a guarantee of safe passage provided by Algerian authorities.

The hijackers slipped out of the Kuwait Airways jetliner at 5.40 am.

The sources did not say where the gunmen were taken. But diplomatic sources said the most likely destination was mainly West Beirut, headquarters of the Hezbollah Shiite militia to which the hijackers are suspected to belong.

After vowing in a pre-dawn statement to continue their failed mission another day, the Arabic-speaking hijackers apparently slipped from the plane 20 minutes before the captives.

A source close to a Kuwaiti negotiating delegation at the airport said the hijackers were taken away by Algerian officials.

### Refused

But Algerian Interior Minister El Hadi Khediri, who led negotiations from the time the hijacked jumbo jet arrived in Algiers a week ago, refused to disclose details of any agreement between the hijackers and Kuwaiti officials, saying "that is a question which concerns (only) Algeria."

He also refused to say what would become of the gunmen.

### Truce offer

BAGHDAD, April 20, (Reuters): Iraq offered Iran a conditional halt to attacks on civilian centres in their war of the cities, saying it would observe the ceasefire from midnight today. (See Page 2)

### INSIDE

International	2.3
Kuwait-Gulf	4
Events	5
Editorials	6
Features	7.8.9
Pictures	10
Business	11.14
Stocks	12.13
Classifieds	15
Urdu	16.17.18
Sports	19.20

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○ برغلی رہا ہائی ٹیکنک آزاد  
○ کیت پر ایران کا میزائل حملہ  
○ ابو جہاد کو دمشق میں دفن کر دیا گیا  
○ پاکستان اور دبئی ائیر کے درمیان ٹریفک روکاوٹ  
○ کیت کی تقریبات  
○ یوسفیات

### WEATHER

UNSTABLE weather with moderate southerly wind changing to moderate northwesterly wind. State of sea: moderate to rough. High water: 4.00 am, 2.00 pm. Low water: 9.00 am, 10.00 pm. Sunrise: 5.16 am. Sunset: 6.18 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 37°C 99°F. Al-Hamad: 35°C 84°F. Fakkala: 28°C 82°F. Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 33°C 91°F. Al-Hamad: 35°C 82°F. Fakkala: 27°C 81°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 42 per cent. Al-Hamad: 64 per cent. Fakkala: 68 per cent. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 52 per cent. Al-Hamad: 74 per cent. Fakkala: 78 per cent.

Insak	3.41 am
Iftar	6.18 pm
FRIDAY	
Insak	3.40 am
Iftar	6.19 pm

## Air pirates abandon their bid

# Hijack drama ends, all hostages freed

From Jadranka Porter

ALGIERS, April 20: The hijack drama which had gripped the world for more than 15 days almost to the minute came to an end early this morning, with 31 hostages and eight hijackers leaving the plane, going in different directions. The hijackers abandoned their bid to free 17 jailed terrorists in Kuwait.

The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said no deals were struck with the hijackers except for safe conduct either to Iran or Lebanon.

The hostages' first pace of freedom came at 6.00 am (0500 GMT), 20 minutes after the hijackers were themselves escorted from the plane.

The hostages, some unsteady on their seats, some shaken with emotion were unshaven, bedraggled in blood-shot eyes and pale faces spoke volumes of their ordeal.

They waved and smiled at waiting journalists more in relief than joy.

### Happy

At the press conference later, the hostages said they were relieved and happy to be free.

Their hands had been tied throughout their ordeal. Many said they believed they were going to die.

They were not aware that two of their fellow passengers had been killed when the plane was in Larnaca.

One described one of the hijackers as having expressionless eyes, the eyes of a shark. Another described how a pistol was placed over his head, then two shots fired into the air, a joke for the hijackers but fright for the hostages.

The hostages are now at the hospital undergoing examination.

Algerian Interior Minister speaking at 5.15 am (0415 GMT), said that the action Algeria took in cooperation with Kuwaiti authorities was free from interference by a third party. A solution was found that was accepted in its entirety, he said.

Algeria led by the concern to save lives, in accordance with the United Nations International Aviation rules which allow a country to receive a hijacked plane only on the explicit request of the country owning the aircraft, he said.

### Situation

In the latest statement just after 5.00 am (0400 GMT), the hijackers said that the third day of Ramadan will be the last day of hijack, in view of the fact that Algeria, the state and the people are fully aware of the situation surrounding "their brothers" and that it has embraced the cause of the oppressed.

The hostages knew that something was happening when they



A woman who was held hostage on the hijacked Kuwaiti plane is helped from the plane after she was released. (Reuters wirephoto)

were walking, saw new faces and heard people speaking in the Algerian Arabic dialect.

They also saw the hijackers wiping out their fingerprints within the aircraft.

The first to leave the plane were the three members of the Kuwaiti royal family.

The two sisters walked down the stairs followed by their brother Fadhil Al Sabah who looked feeble in health and assisted by security men. At 5.40 am (0440 GMT), the hijackers were seen leaving the plane. While the hostages disembarked at 6.00 am (0500 GMT), and got onto the bus.

The three members of the royal family were whisked away in limousines. So were the hijackers to an unknown destination. The rest of the hostages entered the VIP lounge before leaving for the military hospital.

### Expression

The released hostages said they used facial expression to communicate as they were not allowed to talk.

Al Rajak Majdoor, the Egyptian purser of the plane said: "In the beginning I was thinking of death."

Ali, a 26-year-old fire brigade officer said he never knew anyone was killed. He said three Al Sabah family members were together and received worse treatment than anyone else.

A Kuwait Airways plane is expected here this afternoon to take the released hostages and the Kuwaiti delegation home tomorrow morning.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Amir congratulated

HH the Amir yesterday received phone calls from the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani and the President of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan congratulating the Amir on the end of the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner and the release of the hostages.

The Amir expressed thanks and appreciation for their feelings.

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah sent a cable of congratulations to the Amir on the peaceful end to the hijacking.

The Crown Prince congratulated the Amir for the "victory of the country's will."

Sheikh Saad received congratulatory calls from Saudi Crown Prince, the Crown Prince and Defence Minister of Qatar,

the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, and the Premier of Sudan. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher welcomed the release of the hostages.

### Safe

A statement issued by 10 Downing Street said that the Prime Minister was "relieved" that the hostages were safe after their ordeal.

"Thatcher's office added: "Those responsible ought without question to be brought to justice. If terrorists are allowed to escape unpunished it will only lead to more hijacking and more hostage-taking."

The end of the ordeal was welcomed with satisfaction by the French government.

British hostages released early in the hijacking said yesterday safe release of all remaining passengers in Algeria meant they could finally begin celebrating.



Kuwaitis celebrating the release of the hostages, drive along the coastal road waving Kuwaiti flags and honking their horns. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Nation rejoices

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE whole country yesterday celebrated the release of the remaining passengers from the hijacked Kuwait Airways jumbo jet in Algiers.

Drivers blew their horns, waved the Kuwait flag and played patriotic songs to demonstrate their happiness and relief.

Kuwait Radio and TV interviewed people in the streets and recorded their reactions which were broadcast live on radio and television.

### Release

A citizen, Khalid Al Faris, 36, told the Arab Times that he felt great happiness and joy at the release of the hostages. He said that the hijacking united the people facing the ordeal and they shared the happiness of their release.

Another citizen, Ali Al Kha-

shti, expressed his happiness by sending congratulations to the families of the released. When he heard the news he rushed to the phone and called his friends. He was ready to sacrifice himself to keep Kuwait's dignity, he said.

### Demands

Sultan Al Khazma said he was listening to the radio and his eyes filled with tears of happiness. He conveyed his congratulations to the people of Kuwait and the families of the released hostages. He called for execution of the 17 prisoners.

Osama Kaheem congratulated the released people for the end of their ordeal and supported Kuwait's determination not to bow to the demands of the hijackers.

Mohammed Salim said that yesterday was the start of a new

(Continued on Page 2)

## Drug barons behind air piracy

PARIS, April 20, (KUNA): The hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner, which came to an end this morning, was made possible by a recent pact between the pro-Iranian Hezbollah party in Lebanon, drug barons in Bangkok and corrupt elements in the Thai police, Western terrorism experts revealed in a specialised publication.

The Middle East defence news biweekly, Mednews, quoted these experts as saying that Hezbollah was working hand in hand with Thai and Chinese drug barons since last year "through the Hezbollah international drug sales network."

Mednews pointed out that Thai police had found no stolen badges for airport staff thus increasing suspicion that cleaning workers smuggled hand guns into the plane during its 15 hour stop-over at Bangkok airport.

The publication, which has close links to Western intelligence sources, said that the international drug trade may soon supplant Iran as Hezbollah's primary source of income.

The head of the drug trading band is Imad Mughniyah, who is also believed to be responsible for hijacking another Kuwaiti airplane to Tehran in 1984.

## Iran fires Scud missile at Kuwait

IRAN yesterday fired a Scud-type missile at one of Kuwait's areas at 03:15 local time, an official source at the Kuwaiti Defence Ministry announced.

A Defence Ministry statement said Kuwait reserved the right to respond.

### Protested

"Kuwait fully reserves its right to do what it deems necessary toward this aggression and affirms that continuation of such attacks increases its insistence on justice and commitment to the values of its proud people," the statement said.

Kuwait affirms that the continuation of such repeated attacks enforces Kuwait's determination to abide by its principled stance, the official added.

Kuwait has strongly protested to Iran against the missile attack. Kuwait said the hostile action would further fuel tensions in the Arabian Gulf region.

A Foreign Ministry source said the Iranian charge d'affaires was summoned to the ministry and was told by Undersecretary Suleiman Majed Al Shaheen about Kuwait's protest and condemnation.

Shaheen told the Iranian envoy that Kuwait's steadfastness and firm stand will defeat all evil intentions designed to plunge the region into ruin and destruction.

The Foreign Ministry has informed the UN and other competent international organisations about details of the new Iranian aggression on Kuwait.

## Kuwait raps Iran for Gulf attacks

KUWAIT yesterday strongly criticised Iran for attacks on ships and oil installations in the Gulf and urged it to accept a United Nations ceasefire in its war with Iraq.

A Foreign Ministry official said Kuwait strongly denounced Iran's attack on a UAE oilfield in the southern Gulf on Monday and a UAE tanker on Tuesday.

Iran carried out the attacks after the US Navy destroyed two Iranian oil platforms in what Washington said was retaliation for Iranian mining of Gulf seaways.

"Such aggressive acts, including planting mines in international Gulf waters, is a blatant violation of international laws and conventions, threatens the freedom of navigation and increases dangers to stability and peace in the region," the official said.

### Escorts

Kuwait reiterated support for international efforts to protect Gulf shipping, an apparent reference to Western and Soviet navies which escort ships bearing their countries' flags.

"Kuwait calls on its Muslim neighbour Iran to respond in this holy month (of Ramadan) to goodwill and peace efforts and accept implementation of UN resolution 598," the official said.

Iran has withheld acceptance of 598, saying an international panel must determine war guilt at the same time a ceasefire takes effect.

The official expressed Kuwait's satisfaction with Iraq's recapture of the Faw peninsula occupied by Iran two years ago.

Kuwait has accused Iran of launching Chinese-made Silk-worm missiles against its oil installations from bases on Faw.

Kuwait's permanent representative at the UN Mohammed Abdullah Abul Hasan, Tuesday categorically denied Iranian official media allegations that Kuwait's Bubiyan island was used in military operations against Iranian forces.

Abul Hasan in a letter to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said that Kuwait's policy prohibits any military party from stationing or using national soil, water or airspace.

He added Kuwait reiterates its denial of claims voiced by the Iranian official media and noted that the denial was conveyed to the Iranian government via direct diplomatic channels.

### Crisis

The cabinet emphasised that the hijacking and the string of terrorist operations which have recently afflicted the Arab world "were part of a plot intended to drown the Arab nation in a confrontation in an attempt to distract it from important issues."

The Council of Ministers sent a cable to HH the Amir congratulating and thanking him for his instructions and personal contacts "which had a very effective impact in handling the crisis and bringing it to the desired end," Rashid said.

The Crown Prince congratulated the Kuwaiti people for the safe release of the hostages and the public support the government and the country's leadership have received in the face of terrorism and blackmail.

The Kuwaiti government expressed deep appreciation of the Algerian role in ending the crisis and paid special tribute to Algerian President Chadli Ben-jedd and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat for their efforts to end the hijacking.

The government, lamented the death of two Kuwaiti passengers of the hijacked plane.

## Diamond fetches \$9.13m

NEW YORK, April 20, (Reuters): A mystery buyer paid a world record \$9.13 million for a pear-shaped, South African diamond — the largest diamond ever sold at auction — in heated bidding at Sotheby's auction house yesterday.

The 85.91 carat diamond, about the size of a Robin's egg, topped the \$6.6 million paid in 1980 for a pair of earrings with diamonds totalling 131.86 carats.

"To place the present stone in proper historical perspective it may be said that it falls slightly below the Cullinan III (world's largest) now in the British crown jewels, and slightly above the Spoonmaker diamond, now in the Topkapli museum in Istanbul," gemologist and jewellery historian Neil Letson said

### DAY BY DAY

WE should warmly welcome the released hostages at the highest level to show them that their loyalty to the principles of their country is genuinely appreciated.

We want to congratulate the people of Kuwait for their steadfastness against their blackmail. Maintaining one's principles demands an expensive price. We paid this price by sticking to ours.

What must be done is to one day punish those who committed this crime. This is essential if we are to stop all forms of blackmail which occur from time to time.

Zahed Matar



## INTERNATIONAL

## Nation rejoices

(Continued from Page 1)

life for the hostages. He said the hijack was carried out only to further the goals of the enemies of the Arab world. However, the tragedy turned into an opportunity to unify the population of Kuwait.

Latifa Al Rashid congratulated the families of the released people and supported the firm stand of the government and its determination not to yield to the hijackers' demands. She also conveyed her condolences to the families of the hostages who were killed.

A 20-year-old youth, Fahd Abdul Rahman, said that he and his friends planned a procession of cars to express their joy at the release of the hostages. The hijackers should not be allowed to escape and should be punished for their crime, he said.

## Subhi

Reuter adds: a breathless daughter of pilot Subhi Naim Youssef said minutes after his release from a hijacked Kuwait Airways plane yesterday: "We're all just over the moon."

"I just can't say how happy we are," Nora, 18, said. "As soon as he comes home, we'll celebrate. We can't wait."

Kuwait Radio broke into regular programming to announce news of the release.

"Congratulations to every Kuwaiti home, we salute everyone on the safety of the hostages," said an excited announcer between patriotic songs.

The brother of three Kuwaiti royal family members on the plane said: "Our joy will be great when the hostages arrive in Kuwait."

## Hijack record

(Continued from Page 1)

Another hostage, a Kuwaiti diabetic, was freed the next day leaving 24 of the original 92 passengers, including three members of the Kuwaiti Sabah family, on board.

## Longer

They spent two days longer on a commandeered airliner than more than 100 hostages held by three gunmen on a hijacked Pakistani plane from March 2 to March 14, 1981.

The Pakistan government met the demands of the three hijackers and freed 54 political prisoners. They were swapped in Damascus for the hostages.

Strife-ridden Lebanon's conflicts spawned the "longest hijack" record — 16 days — in 1985.

Two Lebanese Shi'ite gunmen seized a TWA airliner on June 14.

It was forced to land in Beirut. The crew and 39 American hostages were taken off the plane and held in the city.

The hijack, in which one American was shot dead, ended on June 30 after Syrian mediation.

The bloodiest hijack on record was in 1974, when a lone gunman ordered an Air Vietnam plane leaving Danang to fly to Hanoi. He set off two hand-grenades and all 70 people on board were killed in the explosion and crash.

The largest number of hijackers known to have seized a plane was 168 — all Cuban refugees. They took over a US Braniff airliner in Lima, Peru, in 1980 and demanded to be flown to Miami. But they surrendered without taking off after US authorities agreed to speed up processing of their immigration applications.

## Saudi reject Iran's demand on haj quota

RIYADH, April 20, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia rejected Iran's demand to send 150,000 pilgrims on the annual Muslim haj pilgrimage and reiterated its ban on demonstrations, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said today.

The agency quoted an official source as saying Saudi Arabia's Pilgrimage Affairs and Endowments Minister Sheikh Abdul Wahab Abdul Wasie told Iran: "The kingdom will welcome 45,000 Iranian pilgrims this year similar to other Islamic countries with no exception."

Saudi Information Minister General Ali Hassan Al Shaer

said earlier numbers would be limited to 1,000 pilgrims per million from each Muslim country.

## Impossible

He said the restoration of holy sites in the cities of Makkah and Medina made it impossible to take more.

SPA said an Iranian delegation led by haj, endowments and charities head Mehdi Emam Jamarani had asked Saudi Arabia to accept 150,000 pilgrims — the same number as last year — and said they would stage demonstrations in the holy cities of Makkah and Medina.



Released hostages walk down the ramp. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Hijack drama ends

(Continued from Page 1)

Kuna adds: The released passengers will return to Kuwait at about 10 pm tomorrow. They will be given a massive official and public welcome.

## Vowed

Before releasing the passengers, the hijackers vowed in a statement to continue to seek the release of 17 jailed terrorists in Kuwait.

"We have a just cause, our efforts will continue to release our brothers in Kuwait and also to release prisoners in Europe and reactionary Arab capitals and the heroes in Israeli prisons," they said.

## Mourners pay final respects to Al Wazir

DAMASCUS, April 20, (Reuters): Mounted on a gun carriage, the coffin of slain Palestinian military commander Khalil Al Wazir moved off through Damascus streets to a martyrs cemetery today as thousands of mourners paid their final respects.

The emotive funeral of a much-respected Palestinian chief on Syrian soil had raised hopes among Palestinians of a long-sought reconciliation between radical Damascus and the PLO.

As the cortege headed slowly towards the Palestinian Yarmouk refugee camp, south of the capital, Palestinian officials said members of the PLO executive committee had met Syria's foreign minister to discuss reconciliation.

## Receive

The PLO members arrived yesterday for the funeral of the military deputy to PLO leader Yasser Arafat and held a late-night meeting with Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara, the officials said.

They said Shara promised that Syria would officially receive Arafat, expelled from the country in 1983, if he came to Damascus and that meetings with Syrian leaders, possibly including President Hafez Al Assad, would be arranged.

## Exerting

Al Wazir, responsible for coordinating a four-month-old uprising in the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, was killed in Tunis on Saturday by gunmen widely believed to be Israelis.

His widow in black, flew with the body to Syria for the funeral. She was accompanied by her sons and daughters, including teenage daughter Henan who

## Iran declares state of alert

NICOSIA, April 20, (AP): Iran today called on all "basij" or volunteer forces, to report for duty and said its forces launched a new thrust into northeast Iraq.

Tehran Radio said: "All bases and resistance centres throughout the country are in a complete state of alert and are prepared to receive popular forces for despatch to the battlefronts."

The radio said yesterday that Iranian officials were organising "extraordinary despatches" of volunteers to the front.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, said Iranian forces killed or wounded 300 Iraqis and captured more than 250 in the Shemiran mountain region of Kurdistan.

It said helicopter gunships and anti-tank teams knocked out dozens of Iraqi tanks and other armoured vehicles in the fighting.

## Crippled

The US Navy sank an Iranian gunboat, crippled two frigates and set two offshore oil platforms on fire on Monday in the heaviest clash with the Iranians since the US Navy buildup last July to curb Iranian shipping attacks.

It said all volunteers should report to their bases throughout the country "and get ready for departure" to the battlefront.

## US considers matter closed

## UAE condemns raid on oilfield

ABU DHABI, April 20, (Agencies): The United Arab Emirates has condemned Iran for attacking an offshore oilfield in the lower part of the Gulf and said it reserved its right to take "all appropriate" measures to protect its security.

In a strongly-worded statement that broke a 30-hour official silence on the attack at Mubarak oilfield, the UAE said Tehran's behaviour contradicted the policy of "good neighbourliness" and was against all international norms and regulations.

"The United Arab Emirates condemns this unjustified attack on its economic installations," the statement, carried by the official Emirates News Agency, Wam, said.

It said the attack, carried out by several Iranian naval units at 0815 GMT on Monday, has resulted in "human losses and inflicted severe damage" to petroleum installations at the field, which is some 30 miles (48 km) off Sharjah.

## Rejection

"The UAE, while declaring its total rejection and strong condemnation of such aggressions, affirms its right to take all appropriate measures to preserve its rights, security and sovereignty," the statement said. However, the statement gave no further details on the attack.

A US newspaper quoted a worker aboard a drilling rig at Mubarak field as saying he believes the Iranians were trying to kill the rig workers in retaliation for US actions in the Gulf.

"I think they were there to kill all of us," Bob Jackson, 55, told the Houston Chronicle in a telephone interview.

Iranian gunboats set fire to a tanker from the UAE yesterday. The fire on the Fal V, hit in the Strait of Hormuz, was later put out and the crew rescued, apparently unharmed.

"The Iranians are saying they're not scared of America despite the beating they took," one Western diplomat said.

Attacks on merchant shipping could bring Iranian warships into further confrontation with the US Navy, which provides escorts for tankers in the Gulf.

The United States said it attacked the Iranian oil platform in retaliation for a mine, which killed one of its ships, the frigate Samuel Roberts, last week.

US officials said nine mines had since been found in the Gulf.

## Action

Reagan said US action in the Gulf on Monday had been taken in self-defence and Washington considered the matter closed. He said the situation in the waterway appeared to have quietened down.

Iran said it had sunk a US vessel with all hands, shot down an American helicopter and set a US-operated oil platform ablaze in the clashes on Monday.

US officials acknowledged a Cobra helicopter with a two-man crew was missing but said there was no evidence it had been shot down.

They reported a civilian US supply boat had come under fire but denied that any American vessel had been sunk. The US Navy searched today for a third day for two crewmen

from a marine helicopter missing in the Gulf.

Hossein Alai, the commander of the Revolutionary Guards naval force, said the "Cobra" was hit, set ablaze and plunged into the waters of the Gulf with all on board.

Fifteen Iranian sailors died and 29 were wounded during the "uneven" skirmishes with US forces, Tehran Radio quoted the Navy commander as saying in a broadcast monitored by the BBC.

## Floating

A damaged Iranian gunboat left floating after Monday's battle-fired shells for several minutes into a UAE tanker steaming through the strategic Strait of Hormuz. The tanker was set afire but no casualties were reported, shipping sources said.

Support for the American strikes at Iran increased among US allies, and even Moscow slammed Iran for provocative attacks against neutral shipping.

Britain summoned Iran's charge d'affaires for a dressing down, and six other Western European nations protested "mining and other hostile activities."

Besides Britain, six other members of the Western European Union meeting in The Hague — Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Italy, West Germany and Luxembourg — said yesterday they supported the defensive measures in the busy Gulf shipping lanes.

The Soviet response was double-edged. The Communist Party newspaper Pravda condemned the "pirate actions" of Iranian ships attacking shipping but at the same time said Washington's response "looks rather primitive."

A Japanese warship spotted three mines and Iranian speedboats, raised two tankers while other merchant vessels apparently tried to avoid the narrow Strait of Hormuz waterway.

A marine executive said the Gulf appeared "ghostly" yesterday from lack of shipping one day after southern Gulf battles.

After midmorning distress signals from two tankers entering the narrow Strait of Hormuz, the Gulf's southern gateway, owners and agents advised their vessels to anchor just outside the Gulf, off the Falkland Islands.

They identified the two ships attacked as the Meltem, flying the Bahamas flag and the 12,215-ton Fal-V from the UAE. No details about the Meltem were available, but executives said the Fal-V was set ablaze and Omani Coastguard boats rescued the crew.

Tehran Radio said yesterday the Swiss ambassador, who represents US interests in Iran, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and "given a written warning in regard to America's aggressive attacks." It said the note "emphasised that Iran will retaliate."

## Bus fire kills 21

BANGKOK, April 20, (Reuters): An explosion and fire on a bus killed 21 bus passengers in Nakhon Ratchasima province in north-eastern Thailand today, police said.

A number of passengers were also injured in the accident.

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Interviews will be held on:

Thursday 21/4/1988

Saturday 23/4/1988

Between: 9:30 am and 2:30 pm

# More India than ever before!

## Summer Schedule

### FLIGHTS TO INDIA

#### FROM KUWAIT

TO BOMBAY  
FLT.NO. DAY DEP. ARR. ACFT.  
AI 830 MON 2245 0510 A310  
AI 802 TUE 2200 0425 A310  
AI 884 WED 1930 0155 A310  
AI 816 THU 1630 0210 A310  
AI 826 FRI 0025 0650 A310  
AI 858 FRI 2300 0525 A310  
AI 852 SAT 2100 0650 A310  
AI 852 SUN 1050 1715 A310

#### TO DELHI

FLT.NO. DAY DEP. ARR. ACFT.  
AI 816 THU 1630 2320 A310  
AI 850 SAT 2100 0350 A310

#### TO TRIVANDRUM

FLT.NO. DAY DEP. ARR. ACFT.  
AI 826 FRI 0025 1020 A310  
AI 978 FRI 0700 1450 A310  
AI 830/820 MON 2245 0900 A310/A310  
AI 802/854 TUE 2200 0800 A310/AB

#### TO GOA

FLT.NO. DAY DEP. ARR. ACFT.  
AI 830 MON 2245 0900 A310  
AI 802 TUE 2200 0900 A310  
AI 958 FRI 2300 1030 A310

#### TO MADRAS

FLT.NO. DAY DEP. ARR. ACFT.  
AI 802/402 TUE 2200 0905 A310/B747  
AI 816/430 THU 1630 0750 A310  
AI 958/408 FRI 2300 0905 A310/B747

\* Following day. All timings local.

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الاستثمار الناجح والاستقرار الدائم في كندا

مؤسسة الإستثمار العالمية للتجارة

تليفون: ٢٤٥٤٥٤٠ - ٢٤٥٤٥٤١

ص.ب: ٢٩٨١ ص.ب: ١٣٠٣٠ ص.ب: الكويت





● Two Egyptian workers crouched by a shaft of a newly discovered Pharaonic tomb dating back to about 700 BC. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Shultz to urge arms embargo on Iran

HELSINKI, April 20, (Reuter): US Secretary of State George Shultz says he will tell Soviet leaders in Moscow on Thursday and Friday that the Reagan administration is determined to secure a UN Security Council arms embargo against Iran.

Shultz said he thought the US strikes on Iranian targets in the Gulf on Monday would not have much effect on the course of the Iran-Iraq war, but an arms embargo would have a major impact on Iranian policies.

"The fact that probably some arms would slip through and all of that doesn't mean that it wouldn't have a major impact. It would. It would reduce their ability to get arms. It would reduce their ability to get parts and things they need."

"It would cause things to be more expensive. It would definitely have a big impact," Shultz told reporters on his plane from Washington to Helsinki, where he is spending one day before moving on to Moscow.

Shultz said he believed the Soviet Union was keen to see an end to the Gulf war, but he declined to predict how the

Kremlin leadership would react to his appeal for quick Security Council action on an arms embargo resolution.

The Soviet Union has supplied large quantities of weapons to Iraq, but it is officially neutral in the Gulf war and has sought to improve relations with its neighbor Iran after a difficult period in the early 1980s.

The Soviet media have also criticized Monday's US actions against Iranian vessels and oil platforms in the Gulf as aggressive, but have avoided the kind of strident denunciation which followed US strikes against Libya in 1986.

Shultz is due to meet Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during his visit to Moscow, and US officials in his delegation said they expected the Gulf war to be a prime topic.

Recalling that the United States has been pressing for a Security Council ban on arms to Iran for almost a year, Shultz said: "We will continue to push that position. What the Soviets will do is for them to say. I can't speak for them."

## Lawyers call off strike

NEW DELHI, April 20, (AP): New Delhi's bar association yesterday called off a 93-day strike launched in protest against a club-swinging police charge on lawyers protesting the handcuffing of a colleague, the United News of India reported.

The news agency said the strike by district court lawyers, which had paralysed work in the capital's district courts since January, ended after the publication of a report by two judges investigating the arrest and later police action to break up the lawyers' protest.

The report, released Monday, called for transferring deputy police commissioner Kiran Bedi, in whose district the incidents occurred. But it did not meet the

lawyers' demands for suspension of Mrs Bedi, who is India's highest-ranking female police official.

Mrs Bedi was transferred last week to the narcotics control bureau.

The lawyers' original complaint was over the handcuffing of a colleague arrested for allegedly stealing from a woman's purse in a local college. The charge was later dropped.

The strike by district court lawyers was joined by attorneys practising before the Delhi High Court and India's Supreme Court. But the senior lawyers called off their strike last month when the government appointed the two judges to investigate the matter.

## Gore considering to quit race

# Dukakis wins in New York

NEW YORK, April 20, (UPI): Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis triumphed by a landslide in New York's boisterous presidential primary on Tuesday and became the clear front-runner for the Democratic nomination.

Dukakis scored a decisive victory over civil rights leader Jesse Jackson that left Sen. Albert Gore Jr. of Tennessee in the dust and assessing whether to go on. Dukakis swept upstate and suburban areas and was leading in New York City, Jackson's stronghold.

"Friends, if we can make it here we can make it anywhere," Dukakis said in remarks prepared for a Manhattan victory celebration. "I love New York, what a wonderful town."

With 84 per cent of the precincts reporting, Dukakis had 714,944 votes or 51 per cent, Jackson, 494,177 votes or 36 per cent, and Gore, 144,045 or 10 per cent.

Dukakis snatched the lion's share of New York's 255 delegates to the Democratic national convention. He was leading for 152 delegates, Jackson for 86 and Gore for 17. That would give Dukakis 900 of the

2,082 delegates needed for nomination to 767 for Jackson and 420 for Gore.

Vice President George Bush easily won the Republican primary where he was virtually unopposed. He was leading for 91 delegates in New York, boosting his projected total to 982 of 1,139 needed to clinch the GOP nomination.

Gore planned a meeting with advisers and family in Washington to decide whether to continue what he had acknowledged was an underdog campaign. "We're going to decide among ourselves how best we can carry on the cause we have been advancing," he told supporters at a Manhattan hotel.

**Victories**

"The numbers speak for themselves," said Gore spokesman Arlie Schardt. By falling short of 20 per cent of the vote, Gore became ineligible for further federal campaign subsidies.

"I guess this was somebody else's Super Tuesday," Gore told his supporters in a reference to the round of primaries March 8 where he last won a primary.

"New York is a real marathon and he beat us by a mile."

Dukakis also referred to

earlier victories and made a self-deprecating allusion to the flat speaking style for which he has been criticised.

"In Iowa we won the bronze. In New Hampshire we won the gold. Tonight we won the Oscar," he said, hugging his cousin Olympia Dukakis, who won the Academy Award for best supporting actress last week.

"All it takes is a strong message, lots of hard work, and plenty of charisma," the Governor said.

The two-week state campaign was concentrated in New York City and was as noisy and bare-knuckled as the big apple. It ended on a sour note over Mayor Edward Koch's harsh criticism of Jackson that put black-Jewish tensions in the spotlight.

"I believe my comments ... were not helpful to him," Koch conceded in a television interview. "I said what I thought was true, but they obviously did not help Al Gore."

Koch said at the start of the campaign that Jews would be "crazy" to vote for Jackson because of his positions on Israel. The flamboyant Mayor gave Gore a surprise endorsement last week and taped a round of states-

manlike television commercials touting Gore.

According to television network exit polls, Gore picked up just 15 per cent of the Jewish voters though he made a special appeal to that powerful bloc that makes up a quarter of the electorate. According to CBS news exit polls, voters disagreed with Koch's inflammatory criticism by 2 to 1.

Jackson picked up between 15 and 17 per cent of the white vote, according to the exit polls, a disappointing showing after exceeding 20 per cent in the Wisconsin primary two weeks ago.

According to those polls, Dukakis picked up three quarters of the Jewish vote and more than 70 per cent of Roman Catholic votes.

**Turnout**

A heavy turnout of the state's 3.5 million registered Democratic voters was reported. In New York City, turnout was very heavy in Jackson's predominantly black Harlem stronghold and Dukakis's friendly white middle class terrain of Queens.

According to ABC News, black and Jewish voters, both representing about a quarter of the Democratic electorate, tur-



**Dukakis: victory**

ned out in roughly equal numbers. About 37 per cent of the Jewish voters said they were motivated by the desire to stop another candidate and 87 per cent of that group went for Dukakis.

New York took on added importance after Dukakis checked Jackson's March 26 Michigan upset that threw a scare into the party establishment by winning big in Wisconsin April 5.

Jackson will no doubt continue his campaign with no holes barred and will still hold an influential position at the July convention in Atlanta.

But Dukakis gained tough-to-stop momentum for next Tuesday's Pennsylvania primary, the May primaries in Ohio and Indiana and the June 7 finale in California and New Jersey.

## Bangladesh happy with new aid pledge

DHAKA, April 20, (Reuter): Bangladesh is happy with new aid pledged by Western donors to help it rebuild an economy hit by floods and political unrest, officials said.

At a meeting of donors in Paris last week, Bangladesh received a commitment of \$2.05 billion in aid for the fiscal year beginning next July.

Planning Minister A.K. Khandker, who attended the Paris meeting, told a news conference that the donor countries appreciated Bangladesh's approach to farm production, alleviation of poverty and rural development.

President Hossain Mohammad Ershad, facing an opposition campaign for his resignation, has accused his opponents of trying to block foreign aid to Bangladesh.

"Some elements even went to Paris and brought out a procession ... trying to halt foreign assistance," Ershad said on Sunday.

The World Bank, which coordinated the Paris meeting, recommended increased aid to Bangladesh after the worst floods in 30 years destroyed 1.5 million tonnes of rice and did \$250 million worth of damage in September. The country also lost millions of dollars in exports and industrial production during opposition-led strikes early this year.

## Robot to locate tumour

TOKYO, April 20, (AP): A Japanese university research group has developed what it says is the world's first robot capable of locating breast tumours as precisely as a doctor, a group member said today.

The robot has four movable rods equipped with pressure sensors that can recognise the stiffness of a tumour, said Masaya Tsuruta, a researcher in the seven-member group led by Professor Ichiro Kato of Waseda University.

Kato told reporters earlier that the robot can locate tumours as small as 3 millimetres (0.12 inches), while skilled doctors generally have difficulty finding ones smaller than 5 millimetres.

In the robot examination, the sensor-equipped rods move along the breast of a patient, taking about six minutes to examine an entire breast.

## Ramos reports decline in insurgency

# Philippines lifts alert

MANILA, April 20, (Reuter): The Philippines largely lifted a nation-wide military alert today after what Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos called a period of "greater stability."

Ramos said there had been a decline in insurgency violence around the country and hinted that the danger of a coup attempt by right-wing groups had ebbed.

"We are now in a period of greater stability," Ramos told a news conference, citing statistics showing incidents of rebel-related violence this year had dropped to below last year's average of 10 a day.

"The red alert has been lifted except for so-called contingency forces," he said, referring to special Army units around Manila formed to track down escaped fugitive Colonel Gregoria Honasan.

The red alert — the highest

state of combat readiness — was imposed last week when President Corason Aquino left for a four-day visit to China and Hong Kong amid rumours that Honasan and his followers might attack key installations during her absence.

"The tension has gone down compared to ... before the president's visit to China," Ramos said.

**Attacks**

Military officials have ruled out any major coup attempt by pro-Honasan troops but acknowledged the group was capable of small, isolated attacks. Honasan mounted an unsuccessful coup against Aquino last August, killing at least 53 people.

Capital region military commander Brigadier-General Rodolfo Biazon said today that Honasan should surrender to avoid a bloody clash.

"Should this problem be resolved in confrontation, this can only be bloody ... this time around Honasan may not have the luxury of negotiating," he told a congressional committee.

Ramos said communist rebels were continuing their urban war by killing lawmen in street ambushes to stay "in the limelight" but that this had brought them public condemnation.

**Marcos**

More than 20 soldiers, policemen and local officials have been killed by communist "sparrow" hit squads in Manila street attacks this year.

Meanwhile, Ferdinand Marcos said on Tuesday that officials in the Philippine government told him he would be allowed to return to his homeland, and the deposed President said he expected to be back in the Philippines within two months.

## Woman on hunger strike dies

COLOMBO, April 20, (UPI): A 48-year-old Tamil woman died last night after a 32-day-long hunger strike staged to press for an immediate cease-fire and unconditional talks between Indian troops fighting Tamil rebels, residents said.

Residents of Batticaloa contacted by telephone said Poopathi Pillai, a mother of five children, died of undernourishment and would be cremated today in the port city.

Pillai, 48, a member of a Tamil women's organisation named the Mother's Front, began her "fast-unto-death" March 19, one day after Indian troops forcibly removed a colleague who was in a critical condition.

The protests were called to press for an immediate cease-fire between Tamil rebels and Indian soldiers deployed on the island trying to disarm the insurgents and enforce the terms of a peace pact signed last July between New Delhi and Colombo.

**Commitments**

Bangladesh officials said the amount of aid would rise by nearly \$100 million after three Islamic financial agencies and Switzerland announce their commitments.

They said the aid pledged for fiscal year 1988/89 is nearly 13.6 per cent more than for 1987/88.

Bangladesh also hopes to get \$700 million from remittances from its citizens working abroad during the current fiscal year, Prime Minister Moudud Ahmed has said.

Seventy-five thousand more Bangladeshers are expected to have found jobs in foreign lands by the end of the current fiscal year, in June, compared with 63,000 in the previous year, Ahmed said.

## French captives may be freed soon

BEIRUT, April 20, (Reuter): The Beirut independent An-Nahar newspaper said today two French hostages held by pro-Iranian militants will be released with three days due to negotiations carried out by two Arab middlemen.

"Sources close to negotiations seeking the release of French hostages confirmed that two of them might be released before 23 of April," the newspaper said in its front-page report.

It said that Arab businessmen Imran Adham and Mehdi Al-Tajer were in Beirut carrying out contacts with influential leaders, including Nabih Berri, the chief of the Shi'ite Amal militia.

An-Nahar said the sources did not reveal the whereabouts of the two middlemen but quoted them as saying "positive results were expected before the 23rd of April."

The report could not be immediately confirmed.

Three Frenchmen, embassy officials Marcel Carton, Marcel Fontaine and journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann, are being held by Islamic Jihad group in Beirut.

The three hostages came close to being freed twice in the past two weeks but each time the deal collapsed because of the hijacking of Kuwaiti airliner, according to diplomatic and government sources in Paris.

Meanwhile, Arab businessman Imran Adham said today after a trip to Beirut to contact Lebanese kidnappers that French hostages held in Lebanon could be freed within the next few days.

Adham, who is reported to be close to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, said he had been in Beirut last night for talks with the kidnappers of three Frenchmen.

"The prospect of a release in the next few days is positive," he told Reuters. "I cannot say more."

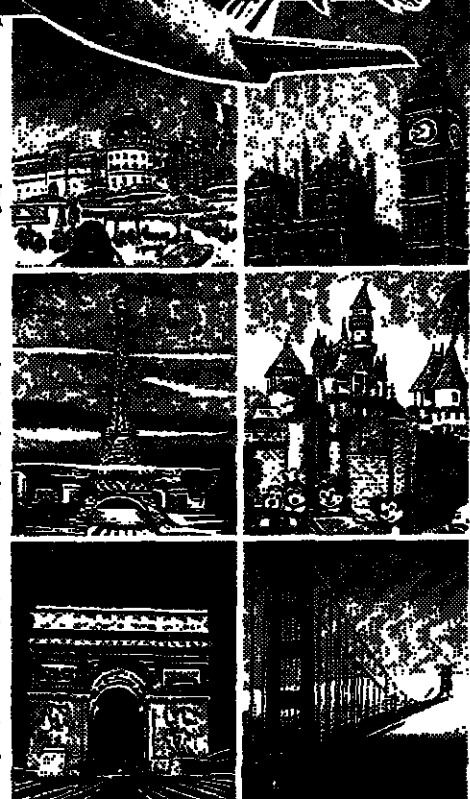
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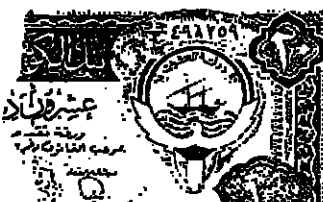
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# Iraqis dig in after recapturing Faw

FAW PENINSULA, Iraq, April 20. (Agencies): Iraqi forces have completely dislodged Iranian troops from the strategic Faw peninsula, recapturing territory seized by the Iranians 26 months ago, an Iraqi general told reporters yesterday.

When the Iraqis pulled out of the peninsula after a 36-hour battle, they left piles of Islamic religious books many of them written by Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

But the Iraqis were too busy building new fortifications after their recapturing the triangle of land at the southern tip of their country, the first major Iraqi offensive in the 7-1/2-year-old Iran-Iraq war since 1986.

**Reinforce**

Hundreds of military vehicles were seen heading toward Faw yesterday to reinforce the elite Presidential Guard units which spearheaded the 36-hour assault on Sunday and Monday.

Iraqi soldiers were busy digging in along the western bank of the Shatt Al Arab waterway, which forms the southern border between Iran and Iraq.

The Iraqi general, who declined to be identified, said at his command post near the refinery city of Faw: "We had a very well coordinated and integrated plan which was superbly executed to achieve maximum surprise."

The general, who identified himself only as a representative of the Iraqi High Command, said the attack ended on Monday at 4 pm (1200 GMT).

Dozens of Iranian corpses lit-

ter both sides of the 30-km (20-mile) rough road leading down the narrow strip of land to Faw.

Bulldozers and other earth-moving machines were busy upturning soil on the corpses as reporters toured the area only hours after Iraqi troops recaptured it yesterday.

An Iraqi corporal opened machinegun fire on a portrait of Khomeini as other soldiers tore up placards, pamphlets and signs carrying his sayings.

More young Iraqi troops danced and chanted: "Death to Khomeini and long live (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein."

Iranian prisoners-of-war, all Revolutionary Guards and numbering more than 200, were being held in a big yard in front of the headquarters of the Iraqi Army on the peninsula.

Bunkers and military hardware, installed during Iran's 26-month-long occupation of the southern terminal, and crushed in the assault, were also vanishing under soil as the bulldozers moved relentlessly forward.

**Abandoned**

Even some Iranian tanks, armoured vehicles and heavy machineguns, looking intact, were being dumped under the salty and muddy soil of the Faw peninsula.

Happy young Iraqi soldiers in hundreds of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and trucks gave "V" for victory signs and fired in the air in triumph.

The reporters were driven in Army jeeps from the southern port city of Basra, 90 kms (50 miles) north of Faw, through the

dust-covered peninsula and the town of Faw, once a busy terminal for exports and for goods arriving in Iraq through the Gulf.

Of the old buildings put up by the British Army during its occupation in the early 1920s only two or three half-demolished edifices remained.

A large sign in coloured Arabic letters on one wall read: "The headquarters of the Supreme Islamic Council of Iraq," the group led by dissident Iraqi Shiite Mullah Mohammed Baqir Al Hakim, who now lives in Tehran.

Iraqi tractors and tanks towed Iranian tanks, armoured personnel carriers and jeeps, as abandoned rocket propelled grenades (RPGs), light and heavy machineguns, grenades and other weapons were piled up in different parts of the peninsula.

At least two Iranian 175 mm recoilless gun batteries were captured intact, their barrels pointing northwards towards the pre-offensive Iraqi lines.

No enemy gunfire was heard as the dozens of jeeps roared through the town, some as far as Ras Al Bisha, the last Iraqi township at the end of the narrow peninsula.

**Liquidated**

Ras Al Bisha sits on the point where the Shatt Al Arab waterway, which divides the two warring nations' lands in the south, flows in to the Gulf.

Then, an Iranian F-4 Phantom jet opened rocket fire at the Iraqi side, close to one of the reporters' jeeps, set some palm trees ablaze but caused no casualties. Iraq said later its anti-aircraft gunners shot the aircraft down.

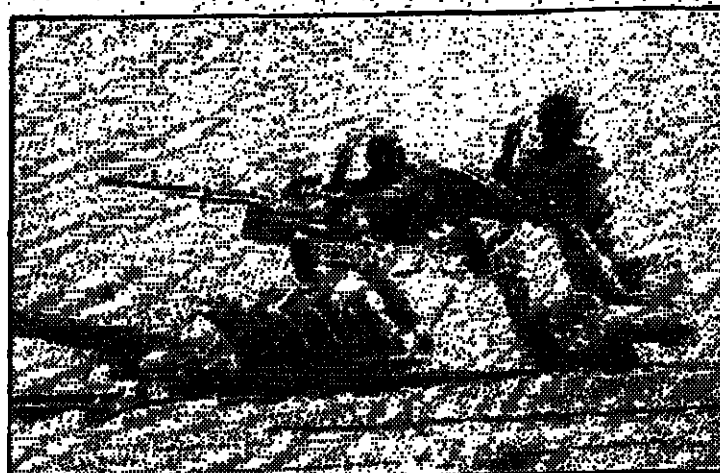
Other jeeps came under heavy machinegun fire from the Iranian bank but no damage was reported.

"Not a single enemy soldier exists on the peninsula's territory now ... our brave soldiers have completely liquidated the invaders and only a few were able

to escape, swimming through the cold water of the Shatt Al Arab," a high-ranking military official said.

He said the Seventh Army Corps liberated the areas west of the Shatt in 24 hours.

The Presidential Guards corps attacked on two axes.



Iraqi soldiers flashing the victory sign.

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## ROYAL COURT

### Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received in audience HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah.

### Cables denounce hijacking

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah has received cables denouncing and condemning the criminal hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner and expressing solidarity with the government's firm stance against terrorism.

The cables came from the Somalian, Jordanian and Yemeni communities in Kuwait, public and private schools, companies, student bodies at Kuwait University, co-ops, public societies, civil servants and labour unions.

## KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

### Liberation of Faw

TWO dailies yesterday commented on the liberation of Faw peninsula. Al Watan said that liberation ended two weeks of tragic incidents.

Al Watan said that the liberation of Faw came after a series of tragic incidents in the region beginning with the hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner, the assassination of Palestinian military leader Khalil Al Wazir, and the continuation of Israeli brutality against the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

"In the midst of these gloomy and heart-breaking developments came the liberation of the peninsula as a spark which brightened the dark," it said.

Al Watan noted that the liberation of the peninsula helped boost the morale of every Arab as such victory was so badly needed.

The paper affirmed that "the victory cannot be measured by the area of the liberated territory but by the political outcome and the political framework in which the victory was achieved."

## Some professions affected by Ramadan

SOME professions are affected for the better or worse during the holy month of Ramadan.

For barbers, for instance, work is slack during Ramadan but may pick up before the Eid.

On the other hand, confectionery, perfume and meat shops improve their business.

Watch and clock repair shops also do better business.

A watch repairer who owns a shop at a commercial complex, Ali Hussain, said businesses was

at a crest ten days before Ramadan. Most customers came to repair their alarm clocks to be able to wake up for the morning and evening prayers. He said charges were not increased during Ramadan, but customers needing fast work were charged more.

He said working hours changed during Ramadan. He opened his shop from 9 am to 1 pm and again from 7 pm to 11 pm. During the last ten days of Ramadan he remained open until 12.30 and until 2 am for the Eid.

## Mishref commercial centre to cost KD57m

THE commercial and administrative centre at Mishref will be built on an area of 25,000 square metres, according to the director of the project, Saleh Al Qallaf.

He said the project will include shops, offices, cafeteria, a 200-seat cinema, a bus station for ten buses, two reserved bus stations and locations for all service ministries.

**Hospital**

Al Qallaf said the project will cost about KD 57 million.

He said the centre will consist of 12 main buildings. The first stage of the project will include construction of roads and main services that will link the buildings. The buildings will also be linked by bridges.

The commercial centre will consist of six floors and a basement which will be used as a car park.

It will have more than 400 shops, each with an area of 15 square metres as well as four towers of commercial offices.

It will have a mosque in the south-west corner.

The centre will have a public library and two theatres.

Office for the Ministries of Electricity and Water, Public Works and Education and for the Public Authority for Civil Information will be built in the southern area of Surra.

A 550-bed hospital and a hotel for the hospital staff, a heliport, a petrol station and a post office will also be built in south Surra, he said.

**Training course**

KUWAIT Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) held a training course on modern storage methods recently for workers from Kuwait Municipality.

The course dealt with modern methods used in storage facilities and storage.

Another course for employees at the National Centre for Scientific and Technological Data was held, which focused on scientific technological data marketing and management.

Both courses featured experts from the Administration Institute and the Private Libraries Union of the US.

## AI Rashed conveys condolences

MINISTER of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed, on Monday night paid a visit to premises of the PLO Kuwait where he conveyed the condolences of HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister and the government over the death of PLO leader Khalil Al Wazir.

Yesterday, HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister sent cables of condolences to the chairman of the PLO's executive committee, Yasser Arafat.

## Commercially produced spectacles may be harmful

SPECTACLE shop owners say that commercially produced glasses are different from prescribed ones, and could affect eyesight and cause headaches.

They said that about 20 per cent of commercially made glasses were of poor quality and came mostly from Asian countries.

People in Kuwait were aware of the need to buy proper glasses and the commercial competition did not affect their business, they said. The owners said that prices were not high and it was incorrect to say that they took a 200 per cent profit.

**Cheaper**

A specialist in prescribed glasses and contact lenses, Hassan Saadat Yazdi, said he was the first to get an optician's licence in 1951.

He said that sunglasses were necessary to protect the eye from sun, sand and dust.

He said that prices were not high, as some customers said, adding that good and cheap

frames were available in the market, as well as expensive ones. He pointed out that well-known makes imported from the United States and Europe were sold in Kuwait at prices lower than in the country of origin and prices of glasses in Kuwait was 20 to 60 per cent cheaper than in most countries.

Yazdi said that people should be careful when shopping and to avoid buying cheap glasses.

He said people should wear spectacles with yellow tinted pebbles because these kept out unwanted light.

**Losses**

Another optician, Dr Mohammed Asali, said that the high wages of technicians, because of an insufficient number on the local market, resulted in higher prices at some shops.

The owner of a spectacle company, Nizar Abdul Ghani, said that currency exchange rates and the instability of markets caused prices to double.

He pointed out that rents were still high and workers received the same wages although business was poor. As a result most spectacle shops suffered losses or just covered their expenses.

Ghani said his company bought all modern and sophisticated equipment to provide customers with better services. He said that quality was an important factor when choosing glasses.

**Campaign**

An optician, Ahmad Abdul Hafidh, said that about 20 per cent of commercially made spectacles were of poor quality and could damage the eyes.

He called on the Health Ministry to stop dealers from importing bad qualities of spectacles.

He called for campaigns to make people aware of matters connected with eyesight and the purchase of spectacles.

He urged people to follow the advice of opticians when buying prescription lenses and sunglasses.

## Lawyer calls for new treaty against hijacking

By Sayed Othman

A KUWAITI lawyer, Abdulaziz Al Taher, said the need was imperative for concluding a new treaty to counter hijacking of aircraft, because the three existing treaties did not cover all aspects of the problem.

He said such aspects included deciding which state would undertake punishment of the hijackers—whether the country to which the hijacked aircraft belonged or the country to which it was hijacked.

He said the circumstances were different now, clarifying that hijacking was now supported by regimes and governments, which were able to finance and

make the plans for hijacking. He said the international community should draw up the necessary firm solution to this problem.

**Punishment**

Al Taher said Kuwait had signed all international conventions concerning protection of civil aviation, including the 1963 Tokyo Convention and the 1970 Hague Convention.

He said that according to these treaties, the punishment of the hijackers of the KAC jetliner fell within Kuwait's jurisdiction provided that the state where the hijacked plane was standing agreed to extradite the hijackers.

He said that all hijacking operations were either for blackmail or to flee from one country to another.

## Saddam visits Saudi Arabia

BAGHDAD, April 20. (Agencies): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein paid a surprise flying visit to Saudi Arabia and returned to Baghdad early today after talks with King Fahd, Baghdad Radio said.

Hussein received messages from Arab leaders congratulating him for liberating the southern Faw peninsula from Iranian forces, the official Iraqi news agency said today.

The INA report said Hussein received messages from a number of Arab leaders, including HH the Amir of Kuwait.

The Iraqi report said messages to Hussein were also received from Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

"This victory is a result of efforts and bloodshed by the Iraqi people under your brave and wise command," the news agency quoted Arafat as saying.

**Ceremony**

The Iraqi embassy in Kuwait hosted a big ceremony yesterday on the occasion of the Iraqi forces victory in liberating the Faw.

The ceremony was attended by the Iraqi Ambassador Asem Yousef Yacoub, the embassy members and Iraqi residents in Kuwait.

The Iraqi ambassador delivered a speech before the audience, praising Iraq's victory and the Iraqi peoples sacrifices for their rights.

Secretary general of Arab League Chadli Klibi phoned Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Informed sources at the League's general secretariat said that Klibi congratulated Aziz on the Iraqi victories in the Faw.

Klibi also inquired from Aziz about the current development at the Faw front, the sources indicated.

## Latest weapons

THE acting commander of artillery at the Kuwait Army, Colonel Nahi Ubaid, has said that the artillery was provided with the latest weapon systems and missiles.

In an interview with the Defence Ministry's magazine, Humat Al Watan, he said that the artillery division of the Army was established in 1956 and consisted of six field guns only. He added that the artillery division was now run by qualified officers.

## Distribution of plots suspended

THE assistant director-general for distribution and follow-up at Kuwait's National Housing Authority (NHA), Fared Al Ajeel, said yesterday that it was purely a coincidence that the decision to suspend distribution of plots of land had taken place in the holy month of Ramadan.

He said the NHA will distribute 131 plots in south Babia during the first week of June and 231 plots in Firdous during the second week.

## Greenhouse agriculture

JASEM Habib, the director of the Plants Department at Kuwait's Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, said that many attempts had been made at using greenhouse agricultural techniques without adequate training and preparation. He added that this was the explanation for the failure of many greenhouse projects.

Habib said that if greenhouse techniques were properly employed it would lead to the success of other related projects.

He said that a major drawback in greenhouse agriculture was the high investment cost. He explained that many people went into this type of agriculture because of the government's support.

## Health Ministry installs special computer centre

SOURCES at Kuwait's Public Health Ministry said that a special computer centre has been installed for storage and retrieval of the latest pharmaceutical information. The computer is connected with the national library in Washington D.C.

Sources said that a number of courses have been arranged by the Department of Pharmaceutical Services for training pharmacists and for upgrading the performance of personnel.

One course entitled "Psychological Medications" had more than 180 participants and another entitled "Clinical Pharmacology" had more than 100 pharmacologists attending.

Sources added that programmes were also held for the purpose of developing pharmaceutical services and the intravenous solutions laboratory had been completed last year.

## Tourism accord

THE Middle East News Agency yesterday reported that 18 Kuwaiti travel companies have signed an agreement with Egyptian touristic enterprises to organise package trips for Kuwaiti citizens to visit Cairo, Alexandria, Ismail and the Red Sea this summer.

Meua quoted a tourism advisor in the Gulf region Abdul Hamed Yehia, as saying that the tours of 14-15 days each will include certain facilities in residence and transport in addition to a number of programmes catering for each group's wishes.

He said that Gulf tourists expected in Egypt this summer are estimated at 85,000.

## Goa flight

THE Goan community in Kuwait has, once again, urged Air India to provide direct flights to Goa from Kuwait.

In a memorandum addressed to Al Chairman Ratan Tata and Managing Director Rajan Jetley, they have asked for a "suitable and convenient" flight to Goa.

They said the present flight, via Bombay, was inconvenient mainly due to the long transit period at the airport.

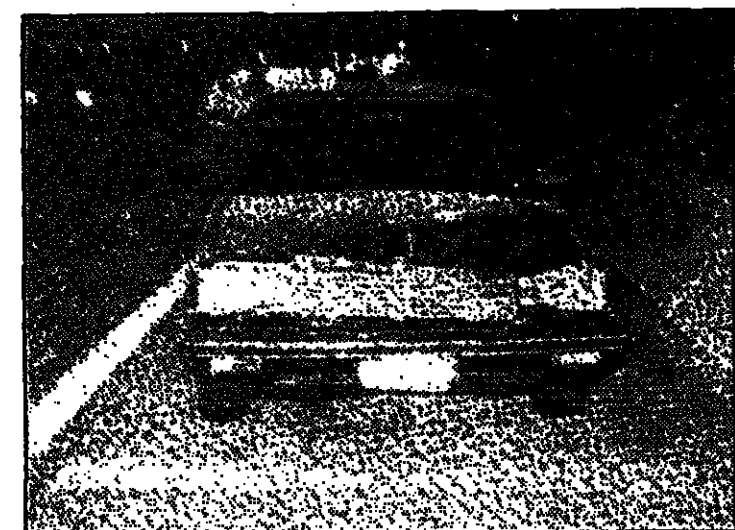
Copies of the memo have been sent to members of Congress, the Indian Ambassador and Air India, Kuwait.

## Border crossing measures

GOVERNMENT sources said the authorities are finalising measures to be taken at Kuwait's border crossings for trucks loaded with imported foodstuffs.

According to a Kuwaiti daily, trucks loaded with foodstuffs would transfer their loads at the borders to Kuwaiti trucks.

The sources said this was necessary for security reasons and was an effort to further control the smuggling of contraband into the country.

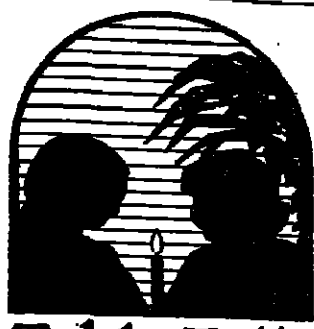


● A labourer died after being knocked down by a speeding car driven by a Kuwaiti woman on Al Safar motorway. Top picture shows the car and the bottom picture shows the dead man.



Handwritten signature or note in Arabic script.





## Table Talk

BY DINAH

IN a country such as Kuwait, the opening of a new restaurant, like the arrival of a fresh batch of videos or inauguration of a new supermarket, is a welcome addition to the social whirl. Last weekend saw the launching of the Al Dobboba Restaurant at the Ras Salmiyah end of Salem Al Mubarak Street.

### Choice

All new restaurants have their teething troubles and it was perhaps a little unfair of us to make such a premature visit. Problems such as the wrong dish being served, the appetizers arriving after the main courses and the coffee coming before the dessert will no doubt be smoothed out as the kitchen staff establishes a routine. With practice too, the service should speed up and improve on style. From the brilliance of the lighting and ferocity of their conditioning, we weren't really surprised when the power failure came, but the staff were well-prepared with candles and light was quickly restored.

Like Hemingway's cafe, Al Dobboba really is a clean, well-

## A clean, well-lighted place

lighted place. Attractively paneled in new pine, the restaurant has a fresh, cheerful atmosphere. It offers the choice of informal sit-down meals or carry-out facilities. Specialising in seafood main course dishes, Al Dobboba also serves a range of hot and cold appetizers, soups, rice and deserts. The appetizers, priced from 500 fils, consist mainly of Lebanese mezzeh dishes such as stuffed vine leaves, foul, kibbeh and fatayer with a few Western specialties like prawn, Russian or tuna fish salad. Nine different soups are available including minestrone, asparagus and cream of celery all at 500 fils each. Eleven styles of rice are offered such as Chinese, Moroccan, biryani and saffron. The hot seafood dishes include everything from crabs, lobster, zubeidi, hamour and prawns of "Fingers Fish" and "Fried Sultan Ibrahim" which neither the heart nor stomach to order! The seafood dishes range from KD2 to KD3 in price. To accompany the meal there is a variety of reasonably priced fresh fruit juices like mango, strawberry or carrot, all at only 300 fils each.

### Flavour

When the hummus and Mat-tabal we ordered as starters eventually arrived part-way through the main course, they were attractively decorated with sumak powder, but unremarkable in flavour. Although my guest had wanted to try the Moroccan rice, we were both served with Mexican rice. Heavily seasoned with nutmeg, but no chillis, it was per-

haps unauthentic, but nevertheless a filling dish of green peppers, mushrooms, onion, potatoes and mutton which would have made a meal in itself for only 500 fils. The Prawns Mexico I chose for my main course was also a very satisfying dish — eight Gulf prawns were cooked in a very rich sauce of onions, green peppers and mushrooms. My guest was less fortunate in his choice of lobster. Two local lobster were served boiled but one of

them was either undercooked or "off," as it had a strong smell and soft consistency.

We faced some language problems when trying to find out what desserts were available, but eventually settled for slices of strawberry tart. At 500 fils each these were good value for money, although the jelly glaze was a bit synthetic. We ended the meal with American coffee and asked for the bill. Including one fruit juice, one Pepsi and water it came to KD

9.150 which is perhaps a little overpriced for this type of restaurant.

**RESTAURANT:** Al Dobboba  
**TYPE:** Seafood  
**MEAL:** Three course a la carte  
**PRICE:** KD9.150  
Star rating (out of five):  
**FOOD:** ★★  
**SERVICE:** ★★  
**ATMOSPHERE:** ★★  
**VALUE FOR MONEY:** ★★



● Bangladesh computer professionals recently held a get-acquainted party at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel. A large number of people attended and enjoyed the evening playing games; they won valuable prizes. Bangladesh Ambassador K.M. Shehabuddin was the guest of honour. Above: Shehabuddin with some of the computer professionals. Below right: Women who attended the gathering.



## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

10.00 Holy Quran  
10.15 Cartoons  
10.30 Mama Anisa and Children  
11.10 Variety Show for Children  
12.05 Noor Al Huda: "Wa Bil Waladain Ahsanan"  
1.00 News Summary  
1.30 World News via Satellite  
2.20 Historical Serial  
3.25 Dukkan Al Duniya: religious talk  
4.45 Religious serial  
5.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk  
6.30 Cartoons  
6.45 After Iftar  
7.00 Madinat Al Riyadh: children's serial  
7.45 Bahath An Al Saadah: weekly Arabic serial, featuring Samir Ghanem.  
8.15 With Islam  
9.30 Ramadan Contest: hosted by Huda Hussein  
10.00 News in Arabic  
11.00 Al Izaj: daily serial.  
12.45 Al Huroub Min Al Khankat: Arabic film, starring Farid Shawki. Kamal Shinnawi, Ezzat Aliaili, Majeda Khatib, Saeed Abdul Ghani. A journalist discovers evidence to prove a crime and is threatened by gangsters.  
2.45 News Summary/Imask/Holy Quran/Closedown

### FRIDAY

10.00 Holy Quran  
10.10 Cartoons  
10.30 Children's Magazine: a programme for young viewers.  
11.00 Prophet's Saying: religious programme, presented by Dr. Ahmad Abul Noor.  
11.25 Friday Prayer from Grand Mosque  
12.20 Min Wahbi Abi Dulamah: religious serial.  
1.00 News Summary  
1.25 World News via Satellite  
2.00 On Ramadan: religious programme  
2.30 Historical serial

### KTV 2

8.00 Holy Quran  
8.10 Centurions: cartoons  
8.130 The Mickey Mouse Club: Cartoons.  
9.00 News in English  
9.40 Islamic Horizon  
9.50 Islam and Muslims Around the World  
10.30 Spenser for Hire: "And Give Up Show Biz". A young man suffers from amnesia after being shot. Spenser investigates.  
11.30 The Bill Cosby Show: "Planning Parenthood." Cliff takes his daughter and her friends to dinner.  
12.30 Late Night Movie: "The Ordeal of Bill Corney."  
1.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

### FRIDAY

1.45 Holy Quran  
2.00 Basketball  
3.45 Big League Soccer  
6.30 Italian Soccer  
8.10 "Transformers: cartoons  
8.30 Out of this World: "Every Beano". A girl with supernatural powers has trouble convincing her family that she is different.  
9.00 News in English  
9.40 Islamic Horizon  
9.50 Understanding Islam: local religious programme  
10.30 The Beauty and the Beast: "No Way Down". A Witness is murdered and Vincent is arrested but escapes from police custody.  
11.30 227: "The Handwriting on the Wall". The parents of a boy file a complaint against Mary for assaulting their child.  
12.00 Guinness Records: more world records are set in tonight's episode, including for parachuting, moving a hotel in San Antonio; a new record in eating hot peppers and the youngest and oldest karate champions.  
12.30 The Wiseguy: "The Marriage of Heaven and Hell". Part 2. Vinnie suspects Sunny of double-crossing him and threatens to kill him.  
1.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## WHAT'S ON

### ARTS

**Bulgarian Art Show**  
An exhibition of contemporary applied arts in Bulgaria is being held at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery, near Fatima Mosque. Open daily, except Friday, from 8 am to 12 noon and 7 to 10 pm, until April 21.  
**Ghadir Gallery**  
Sundanese artist Hasan Haken is showing his drawings at the gallery in Dahiyat Complex. It is open daily from 10 am to 2 pm and 8 pm to midnight until April 21.

**Sultan Gallery**  
"The Islamic Heritage of Spain" is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 7 to 10 pm at the Sultan Gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soor St.

### THEATRE

**Kuwait School of Contemporary Dance**  
The company will present two ballets "Carnival" and "The Never Ending Story" from April 25 to 29, 8.30 pm nightly, at the Mousetrap Theatre, NES, Jabriya. Tickets KD 4. The box office at the Mousetrap is open daily from 4 to 7 pm. For telephone bookings 5610673, 8 am to 1 pm.

### SOCIAL

**Kumustahan**  
The next Filipino get-together (Kumustahan) will be held from 6 to 9 pm on April 29 at the Church Hall. All Filipinos are welcome. Snacks will be served.  
**Ifar Party**  
The Bangladesh Association will hold an Ifar party on April 21 at the Bangladesh Embassy premises. All Bangladeshis are invited.

### LECTURE

**Solar Energy**  
A lecture-cum-discussion on solar energy application will be given by Dr R.K. Suri and Gopal P. Rameshwar at the IAC hall, Funtaites, on April 21, 7.30 pm. For entry passes contact IAC Manager Mohan, 6 to 9 pm.

## SPORTS

**Palang Pilipino**  
There will be a meeting of all tennis participants in the Filipino Mini-Olympics at 6 pm on April 28 at Mabuhay Restaurant. All Filipinos are invited. For details contact Bong Melencio, 4877793.  
**Raft Race**  
The captains' meeting for the second Kuwait Annual Raft Race will be held on Tuesday, April 26, at 8 pm in Al Foz Suite, Messilah Beach Hotel.  
**Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club**  
Club shirts, as ordered, now available from Jon Evans. Tel: 5339867, to arrange delivery. The Club's A.G.M. is on Tuesday, May 10, 7.30 pm at the Gazelle Club.  
**Goan Cup Tournament**  
The Young Goans Association, Kuwait, will hold a seven-a-side football tournament on the first day of Eid Al Fitr at the Al Sour Grounds. The draw will be held on the same day at 7.30 am. Tournament commences at 7.45 A.M. The tournament is open to all communities, subject to approval by organisers. For details contact Tom — 2419409; Almeida — 4813892 ext. 232.

## HOTELS

**At the Holiday Inn**  
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers special Ramadan buffets with Arabic and Continental buffets after sunset until 2 am. Sample Oriental delicacies including foul and falafel at the Ramadan Diwaniya for breakfast (Ifar).  
**FRIDAY**  
Kuwait  
Dubai Pharmacy  
Souk Wagef, Algiers St.  
Al Bakhsham Pharmacy  
Ahmad Al Jaber St.  
**Hawalli and Nagra**  
Al Jodhar Pharmacy  
Tunis St.  
**Salmiya and Rumaihiya**  
Razan Pharmacy  
Fahd Al Hamad Al Khalid Bldg., Razi St.  
**Fahsheel and Ahmadi**  
Al Wafa Pharmacy  
Dabbous Palace, Dabbous St.  
**Jleeb Al Shiyouk**  
Faiaka Pharmacy  
Opp. Police Stn., Main St.  
**Jahra**  
Al Zahra Pharmacy  
New Souk

## PRAYERS

**Fajr** 3.51 am  
**Zuhr** 11.47  
**Asr** 3.22 pm  
**Maghreb** 6.19  
**Isha** 7.40  
**FRIDAY**  
**Fajr** 3.50 am  
**Friday Prayer** 11.46  
**Asr** 3.22 pm  
**Maghreb** 6.19  
**Isha** 7.41

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Class teacher for Junior Department  
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● You will not need to book in advance; and you'll be allowed a late check-out.

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**KUWAIT HILTON**



## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

THOUGH familiarity may not breed contempt, it takes the edge off admiration — William Hazlitt, English essayist

## OPINION

## Kuwait a country of principles

THE banner of Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed, the banner of true principles, is at last victorious.

The hijackers, instruments of evil-minded masters, thought it would be easy to overcome a small country like Kuwait. They thought the presence of members of the ruling family among the hostages would force Sheikh Jaber to submit to their demands.

They forgot that in Kuwait there is no difference between the great and the small — all are equal. They forgot that the members of the ruling family were, first of all, citizens of Kuwait and would be the first to sacrifice for Kuwait's dignity and principles.

The hijackers thought that by releasing only Kuwaiti Shiites, they would disrupt Kuwait's national unity and love.

The hijackers were influenced by these assumptions but found, along with their masters, popular support by the Kuwaiti people for their leaders and government.

In Kuwait all raised the banner of Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed: no blackmail, no fear and no rescission from principles.

Kuwait is a country of principles. The superpowers are the first to acknowledge this. They once submitted to blackmail and got nothing in return but more blackmail.

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed remained steadfast and went through the danger of dealing with fools.

All in Kuwait have remained unshaken and have suffered with the hostages through their ordeal on the Jaberiya. We kept praying that Almighty Allah would solve the problem and that they would be released. We experienced their pain when they were forced to speak under the threat of their kidnappers. We were with them in spirit as the banner of Kuwait emerged victorious.

With this victory we should give them the honour they deserve for their display of courage. I hope they will realise the depth of the feelings of the people of Kuwait towards them, both while being held hostage and now that they are released.

The people of Kuwait are pleased that the hostages have been released and are pleased that another victory has been achieved over the foolish hijackers.

The coming days will prove to the hijackers that they will be unable to escape punishment. And the masters of the hijackers have already experienced the bitter taste of this defeat among others.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

## Tragedy unites a people

SIR: I am a Gulf national and wish to express my feelings of anger and frustration towards the hijack of the Kuwait Airways plane.

The tragic hijacking of the KAC plane has brought together a people. The hijackers have united us. Did they believe they would get sympathy from us? Did they assume that any decent human being would condone their actions?

What justification did they present? They demanded the release of murderers. The 17 prisoners in Kuwaiti jails have committed a crime and they deserve punishment. That's all there is to it. There is no scope for discussion.

What has the world come to? Can human beings murder in cold blood?

I ask you, the reader, what do we do? Sit here and become victims of such barbarous actions? I cannot.

I want to see them punished. I want to see them suffer. I am not a blood-thirsty person but I feel so helpless. I wish there were something I could do. I do not intend to challenge those criminals or their ugly supporters if they have any; they're not worth the effort.

I ask the hijackers: "Do you have no mercy? Is your cause worth the lives of two innocent men? What kind of family do you come from? Did your mother teach you to terrorise children? I pity the woman who gave birth to you." I feel sorry for the sisters and brothers of the criminals.

Kuwait has gained the support of its citizens. Arab visitors and expatriates. We will support Kuwait, without reservations. I love Kuwait and its people.

Mae K.A. Al Hajjaj, Safat, Kuwait

## Deeply shocked

SIR: We, the Bangladeshi community in Kuwait are deeply shocked at the hijacking of the Kuwaiti jumbo jet Al Jaberiya and the slaying of its two passengers. We strongly condemn this terrorist act which is completely against the values of any civilised society of mankind. We express our profound sorrow and full solidarity with the wise and brave leadership of Kuwait and its people.

Bangladesh Association, Kuwait.

## Tasteless local beef

SIR: I recently bought beef from the new Shuwaikh Souk and found it was tasteless. We asked the butcher where the beef came from. He replied: "from Kuwait. It's local beef."

Is it true that many people eat tasteless beef in Kuwait? For the last few weeks, Indian restaurants have been serving cheap quality, and tasteless, beef. It is highly probable that it is kangaroo meat.

Leila Ahmed, Rigqie.

## Autonomy for Muslims

SIR: We appreciate the decision of the Philippines President Corason Aquino to grant autonomy to Muslim minorities in Mindanao and other southern islands. Her promise to appoint a 50-member regional commission to structure an autonomous government in 13 Muslim provinces raises hopes for greater self-government for five million Muslims.

We also appeal to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to accept MNLF as a member.

Sufi Mohammad Akram, President, Anjuman-e-Khuddam-Ahmed Redha, Lahore, Pakistan.

## Writer's point misrepresented

SIR: It is your stated policy that letters to the editor are, to quote you, "subject to the editing process for space or other reasons." Fair enough. But please bear in mind that once you decide to edit a letter you have a bounden duty not to misrepresent the writer's point of view or angle, or alter the tone or style of the letter.

In a letter to you last week concerning the unusually large number of commercials shown on KTV 2 prior to Falcon Crest, I wrote as a final remark: "Now that you've got the hang of it, KTV, please don't overdo it" a remark which you changed to: "Now that KTV 2 has achieved its aim, it should not overdo it."

I didn't write nor do I wish to be associated with such a wooden, clichéd phrase as, "achieved its aim," a phrase typical of the gobbledygook one hears and reads all too frequently in the media here. It's as meaningless as, "bilateral relations" and "matters of mutual interest." Such phrases lack fluency and are the enemies of natural tone and style.

Besides, in my final remark I wasn't talking about KTV achieving an aim; I was making a simple appeal for more subtlety, similar to the appeal I'm making to you now.

John Flanagan, Mina Al Zoor

## A blow to Indians

SIR: We have learnt from a press release issued by the Air-India office in Kuwait that passengers travelling to India by Air-India will no longer be eligible to avail of concessional airfare with effect from May 1.

This means that a passenger making his journey to, say, Bombay and back will have to incur an additional expenditure of about Rs.3000 per ticket.

The additional expenditure naturally will vary with different destinations. This will also mean that a family, say of four members, will have to incur an additional expenditure of over Rs.12,000 from May 1.

Such an increase will amount to an unbearable financial burden on the Gulf passengers, already badly hit by declining salaries, economic recession

and other hardships. The majority of Gulf-based Indians can afford to travel to their homes once in three or four years only and the additional burden of the increased air fare will be a great blow to their aspirations.

Further, we believe that this decision was taken because of the suspension of Kuwait Airways flights to India and because of security problems and profit motive rather than service considerations.

United Malayalee Organisation has taken steps to bring this issue to the notice of Air India authorities in Kuwait and India. Representations have also been made to the prime minister of India, aviation minister, chief minister of Kerala and various members of parliament.

N.V.K. Warriar, Chairman, UMO.

## Boycott AI

SIR: I appeal to all Indians in Kuwait to boycott Air India until they revise the decision on air fares.

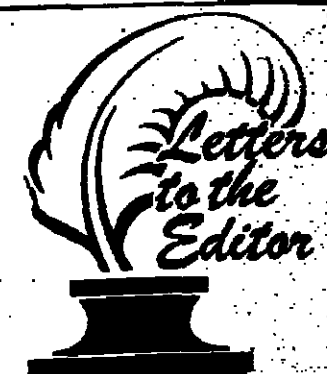
Sincerely,

M.C. Bose

## Happy over release

SIR: As a long-time resident of Kuwait, I would like to express my happiness to the government and people of Kuwait over the safe release of the remaining hostages from the Kuwait Airways plane in Algiers.

Victor Mason, Kuwait University Language Centre



## Amateurish coverage

SIR: A KAC plane was hijacked and two passengers callously murdered, yet KTV 2 featured ministers arriving at the airport to the sound of national anthems and bland background music.

It took about 15 minutes to feature any news on the hijacking, and this consisted of the usual amateurish coverage of interrupted interviews and poor film editing followed by long periods of silence.

Nationals, expatriates and any caring person in Kuwait was rightly concerned and wished to be informed of this tragedy as soon as the news bulletin opened.

Jane Watts, Fahaeel.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

## Media corps have tough time at Algiers

From Jadranka Porter

ALGIERS: While the Algerian authorities continued their intermediary role this week, with equal determination to that shown on the arrival of the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner, there were signs of irritability with the international press as the hijack drama ended.

On the eve of Ramadan the media corps, which numbered close to 300, were thrown out of the airport VIP lounge onto the nearby lawn where six tents had been erected to protect them from heat during the day and the night-time chill.

To use the facilities such as toilets and telephones the journalists were directed to the main terminal building at the Algiers Houari Boumedienne Airport which was already overburdened with the passenger traffic.

Telephone lines which were initially available for all were rented to large networks and news agencies and when not being used were kept locked.

## Dismissed

The journalists who were received with a lot of courtesy and some curiosity and who upon arrival were given special treatment at the airport found that their requests were summarily dismissed.

This added to their frustration which mainly stemmed from the absence of any solid information on the negotiations just before the end of the hijack drama. But there were those who felt that reporters were not entirely free from blame.

On Monday, the first day of Ramadan, when most Algerians began their fast, the newsmen, who virtually lived on the airport lawn, had stacks of foods and drinks, as well as blankets, pull-overs and sleeping bags, brought to them by locally hired assistants and drivers. Some munching steaks, sandwiches and oranges in tents but others did so in full view of dozens of Algerian security men.

An Algerian reporter accused



Journalists drink and eat in the tent city built at the Algiers Airport with the hijacked Kuwait Airways 747 in the background. (Reuter wirephoto)

the international press of "feasting" and was particularly annoyed by a Canadian journalist with a fat cigar between his teeth blowing clouds of smoke in the direction of Arab journalists standing nearby.

The Algerians, some of them showing signs of impatience on first day of fasting, had on the whole shown a fair amount of tolerance, which foreign journalists liked to believe was due to them anyway.

The situation was not made easier by the fact that the international media, which in the beginning hailed the Algerian

role in the hijack crisis, afterwards had little reason to continue giving credit to the Algerians, since the talks at one state appeared to be hopelessly deadlocked.

But in an extraordinary situation such as this when both the authorities and the media sought answers to one key question — when was all this going to end? — cohabitation between the two was a must.

The Algerians also probably knew that the media had an influential ally — the hijackers who enjoyed basking in the limelight.

## Economic woes trigger discontent in Turkey

By John Owen-Davies

ANKARA, (Reuter): Swept back to power less than six months ago, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is today beset by growing discontent, reflected in opinion polls showing electors dramatically deserting his cause.

Last November, his Motherland Party won 292 seats in the expanded 450-seat parliament. The main opposition party won 99 seats.

Soundings of the electorate's woes late last month showed a slump in support for the ruling party, with some putting it behind the main opposition Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP) for the first time.

The stumbling economy — with the effects of 70 per cent annual inflation on the country's 52 million, mainly Muslim, people, and a growing foreign debt burden — is a central focus of general discontent. And Ozal faces trouble from organised labour and within the loosely-knit Motherland Party.

## Economy

"Ozal has to tread a very narrow line if democracy is to thrive," one political source said. "There is no major alarm at the moment, just signals saying the economy must be put right."

Political analysts see no immediate threat to Ozal, an astute economic free-marketier who applied 12 months ago for Turkey to become a full member of the European Economic Community (EEC).

Last November's election which returned the conservative Ozal to office was the most open poll since the 1980 Army coup crushed extremist political violence.

Economic problems and political chaos led to military interventions in 1960, 1972 and 1980, and some Turks now talk openly about possibilities of intervention 10 years after the last coup.

Many officials and diplomats, however, scorn such talk. "Those who analyse Turkey in



Turgut Ozal

10-year cycles can be dismissed," a senior diplomat said.

"Political polarisation no longer exists and Ozal has made some irrevocable changes. All the same, something must be done about the economy... the Army is now back in barracks. It only intervenes with great repugnance," he said.

## Blame

Bankers and economists largely blame Ozal for the present economic situation, saying he gave free rein to the economy before November's general election and a referendum that lifted bans on politicians blamed for the pre-1980 chaos.

"Ozal let the economy run free last year to help create a favourable atmosphere before the referendum and the election. Now the penalty is being paid," one banker said.

Since the election, Ozal has announced price rises of up to 100 per cent on state-run goods and services, including petrol, travel and food, mainly to cut a budget deficit which totalled 2,157 billion lira (\$1.72 billion) in 1987.

The latest increase was on March 28 when the cost of petrol and petroleum products were increased by 23 per cent, the fourth rise in as many months.

Ozal, underlining his determination in dealing with the

economy, told reporters this month: "We shall do whatever is necessary... if it means price hikes we shall do so. If it means (more) taxes we shall bring taxes."

"The government is at a loss in the face of galloping inflation," SHP leader Erdal Inonu told reporters. "It goes on like this it will rise to three digit levels by the end of the year."

## Inflation

Apart from inflation, Turkey's foreign debt rose sharply last year to \$38.3 billion from \$1.33 billion in 1986, putting additional pressure on the budget.

At the same time Turkey's lira has continued to fall against the dollar — to 1.250 to the US currency compared with 751 at the beginning of 1987 — putting goods in some shops in Ankara and Istanbul out of the reach of many people.

The prices of imported furniture, cosmetics, clothes and electronic equipment are constantly rising because of the lira's depreciation.

An opinion poll in the mass-circulation daily Sabah showed the Motherland Party would win 24 per cent of the vote against 25 per cent for the SHP, itself hit by a leadership crisis, if an election were held now. More than 20 per cent were undecided.

A poll in the daily Hurriyet showed nearly 60 per cent of Turks believed they would be even worse off in 1992 than now.

## Strikes

Trade unions, seeking to retrieve some of the clout they had in the 1970s, plan mass strikes next month if demands, including raising the minimum wage of 74,500 lira (\$60) a month, are not met.

Talk about possible intervention in Turkish politics was fuelled by Motherland deputy head Mehmet Kecerler after acrimonious parliamentary debates and opposition charges of government high-handedness.

"We will end up with another interim regime if the opposition does not cooperate with us," he said.

## Duped women flow to Asia's vice dens

By Adam Kellisher

DHAKA, (UPI): Badal Borishal can be found most days prowling Dhaka's teeming central bus station for vagrant village girls he drugs, dupes or marries before dispatching to the brothels of India, Pakistan and the Middle East.

"Sometimes the feelings come that this is not good work," chuckled Borishal, a lean 27-year-old dressed in tight white pants and a natty crimplene shirt. "But the moment I get the money and have a few drinks, I forget."

Borishal and others like him are the first links in illicit networks that supply what smugglers, victims and human rights workers say is an almost unending flow of women to the vice dens of South and West Asia.

There are even more horrific allegations about the cross-border trade in human beings.

One official said a recently captured smuggler told authorities he regularly used promises of employment to lure men and children to India, where they were killed so their kidneys could

be used for transplants and their skeletons sold for shipment to Western medical schools.

News reports also have said boys are marketed as slave labourers and jockeys for camel races in Gulf countries.

"The smugglers have made some startling claims, but these are difficult to verify because nobody ever comes back," said Major Noor Hussain, commander of border forces near Rajshahi, a western Bangladesh city.

Beyond the lurid stories, it is certain the demand by nefarious industries across South and West Asia has created a booming body business in Bangladesh.

Borishal said he began his career seven years ago, promising impoverished families in remote villages work for their younger daughters, whose dowry obligations make them added burdens for those living in the world's second-poorest nation.

He now belongs to a 45-member gang that patrols Dhaka's bus and railway stations to offer enticing jobs as domestic servants in India or Pakistan to rural women drawn to the city in

hope of employment.

Borishal admitted marrying four women, taking them for honeymoons in India and handing them over there to body brokers.

The less glibly are drugged before joining other hopefuls for a ride to the border aboard a bus owned by the smugglers. Borishal said.

## Bribed

He said Indian border guards are bribed to ignore the groups, which are taken to brokerage houses just across the frontier, where the women are assessed and sold for between \$300 and 900 depending on their beauty.

"Day by day, business is increasing," said Borishal. He said his band is one of "many" and transport to India between five and 30 women every week.

"Our economic condition is going down and that is why the rural people are coming out," he said.

Bangladesh has 104 million people crammed in an area the size of Greece. In an impoverished country where birth and death records are only sporadically compiled, exact

figures on the magnitude of the smuggling do not exist.

Officially, the phenomenon is not recognized.

Home Minister Mohammad Abdul Matin said "perhaps two or three" women per year slip on their own initiative into India, but denied the existence of organized smuggling rackets.

"A large number of people do cross the border for petty smuggling," said Matin. "but the quality of life in Bangladesh is not so bad as to drive away a big exodus to India."

## Smuggling

Yet human rights workers said body smuggling has become an acute problem, ironically spurred by a 1982 order forbidding single women from being employed abroad after numerous reports about Bangladeshi girls being mistreated in Arab countries.

"They used very polite words and had very sweet faces," said Satara Begum of the four men who drugged her and a friend on a suburban Dhaka bus and shipped them to the frontier. "After we ate their food we just followed whatever they said."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

753B.C. — Tradition has it that Rome is founded by Romulus on this date.

1500 — Pedro Alvarez Cabral lands in Brazil, which he claims for Portugal.

1572 — Britain and France sign defensive treaty.

1839 — Turkish Army invades Syria in opposition to Mehmet Ali.

1898 — United States recognizes independence of Cuba.

1928 — France's Aristide Briand submits his draft treaty for outlawing war.

1954 — United States flies French battalion to Indochina to defend Dien Bien Phu.

1956 — Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Yemen sign military alliance at Jeddah.

1961 — United Nations calls for elections in Ruanda and Urundi; revolt breaks out in Algeria under General Maurice Challe.

1966 — Surgeons in Houston, Texas, make what is said to be first implant of an artificial heart in a human.

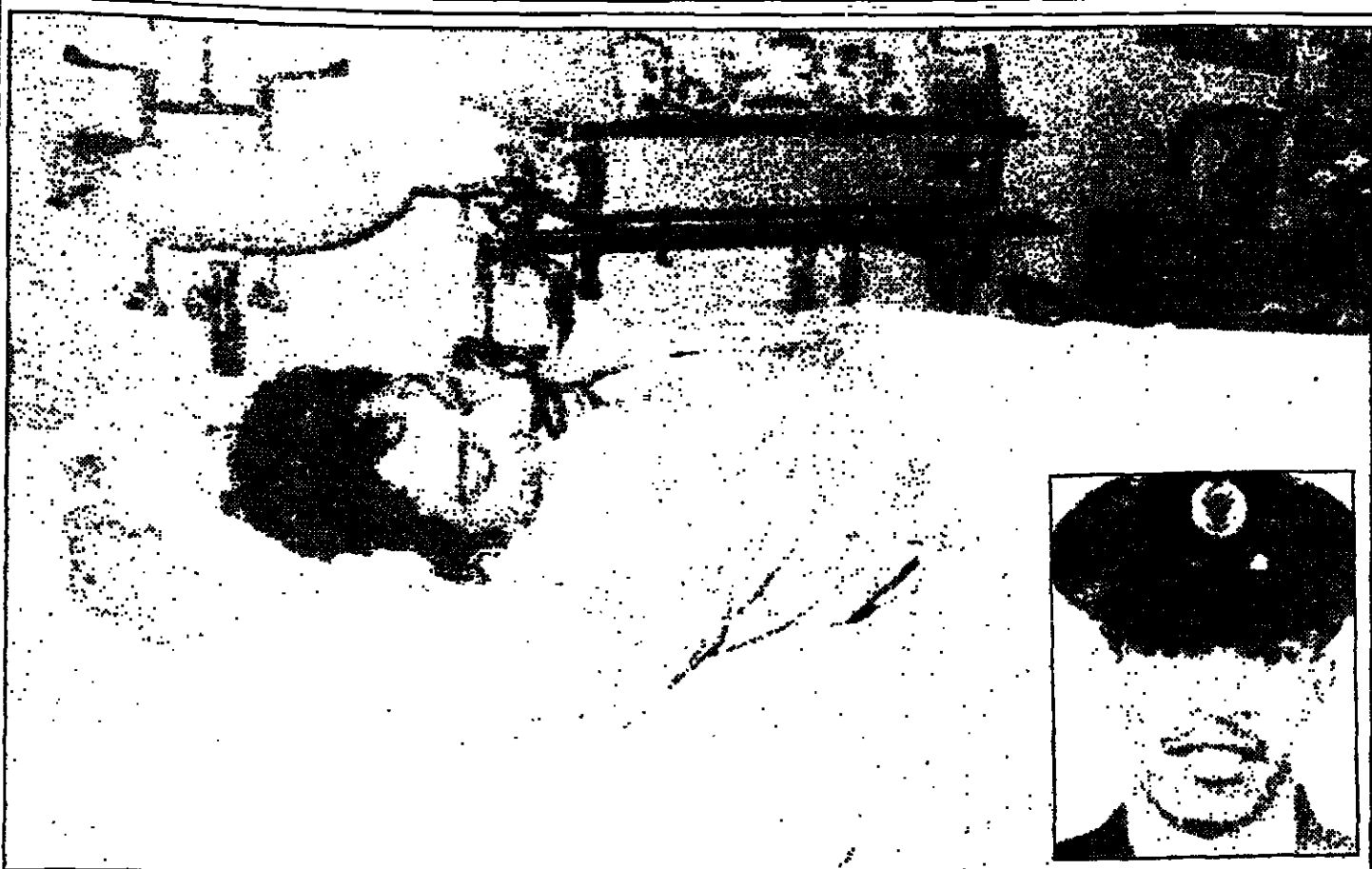
1967 — Army seizes control in Greece.

1972 — Two US Apollo 16 astronauts spend seven hours exploring highlands of the moon.

1975 — South Vietnam's President Nguyen van Thieu resigns, denounces United States as untrustworthy, and names successor to seek negotiations with communist forces sweeping across country.

1977 — Pakistan's Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto assumes emergency powers and imposes martial law on three major cities in crackdown on opponents trying to force his resignation.





Lest we forget: Mohammad Al Khalidi, and Khaled Ayoub Ismail Ayoub Bandar, (inset) killed in cold blood by the hijackers of Kuwait Airways flight 422.

EVEN though the Kuwaiti hostages have finally been freed in Algeria it seems inappropriate to try and be funny today. Instead, I'd like to try and articulate the feelings of everyone that I have spoken to in the past two weeks. A few days ago, the Kuwaiti Shiite population voiced their solidarity with their Sunni brothers during this difficult time. Judging from what I have heard lately, this feeling of solidarity applies to every citizen of Kuwait, Iraqis, Egyptians, Brits, Pakistanis, Filipinos, Bangladeshis, Sri Lankans, Americans, French... nationality becomes unimportant at a time like this. The plain truth is that every one of us could so easily have been on that plane, or any other one that these brutal killers might choose to attack.

We are all potential victims, and we share the grief and concern of the families of those who were unfortunate enough to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. At the time of writing, the hostages have just been released and the hijackers appear to have been allowed to go free although already two innocent young lives have been cruelly destroyed by these murderous nobodies. Are they really stupid enough to think that their actions have anything to do with religion?

At its crudest, what they were saying was, "Our friends killed six innocent people and maimed and wounded over eighty more, but unless you let them off, scot free, we will kill even more innocent people." Do they think that such an

## Not funny today

By Keith Wells

argument will ever be allowed to prevail? Of course, the government cannot give in to such crude and savage blackmail which flouts the very foundations of a civilised society.

Last week I talked to the wife of the KAC pilot who was hijacked to Tehran a couple of years ago and she told me that at no time during the whole horrifying week that her husband was at the mercy of those criminal psychopaths did she ever consider that the 17 bombers should be released. Her integrity is inspiring. To

surrender the killers would be to surrender the very soul of the nation, to make a pact with the Devil, who always demands payment in blood.

It was hard to listen to the hostages' barrowing pleas for salvation, what else could they say when a gun is placed to their heads? But nobody can afford to submit to demands made at gunpoint by thugs who think nothing of killing a twenty-year-old fireman, a young boy with his whole life ahead of him, a kid who's done nothing to them or their families.

Naturally, people think of revenge, many people have said the government should hang the killers at once to demonstrate once and for all that the hijackers have nothing to negotiate for. Others said the plane should have been stormed, whatever the cost, and the hijackers shot down like mad dogs. These feelings are all too understandable.

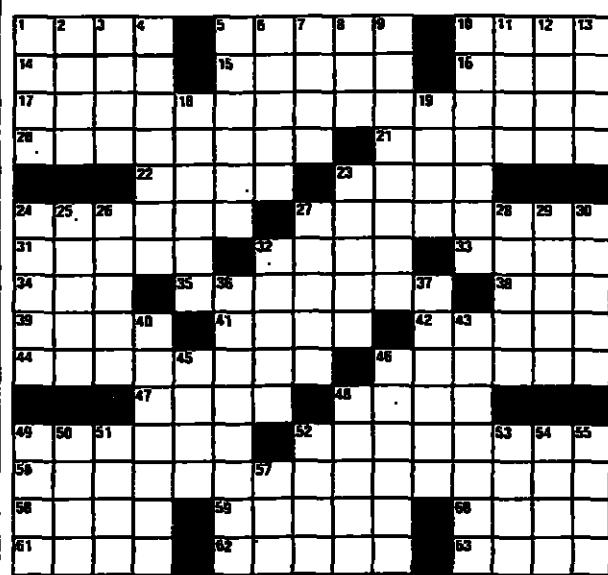
Yet the fact remains that by exercising restraint, we show that we adhere to higher ideals than their degraded and debased vision of justice. Terrorism is the last refuge of the coward, the bully who wants everyone to do as he says.

The frightening thing about this latest episode was the expertise shown by the hijackers. They seemed to know how to operate a jumbo jet, they controlled their victims with ruthless efficiency. The world's press was enslaved by the drama of their actions. But let them make no mistake, we looked at them with disgust and horror. Every man's hand is against them, not just Sunni Kuwaitis and Shiite Kuwaitis, but every man and woman who ever rode in an aeroplane, every person who has a relative or friend who rode an aeroplane, every person on earth who thinks that shooting an unarmed young man is a despicable act, everyone who knows that religion has nothing to do with murder, we all of us loathe and despise these cold-blooded killers. Let them beware the anger of righteous people, let them be afraid of true religion and true justice, let them dread the consequences of their evil.



Beaten but not broken

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Relative of etc.
  - 5 Loud kiss
  - 10 "For — the Bell Tolls"
  - 14 City SE of Prague
  - 15 Sacred book of the Moslems
  - 16 Immense
  - 17 Caught in the middle
  - 20 Ship's movement backwards
  - 21 Dissipates
  - 22 Ripped
  - 23 Red deer
  - 24 Refinement of the mind, in Köln
  - 27 Revolted
  - 31 Saul's grandfather
  - 32 Word with boy or buoy
  - 33 Green land
  - 34 Author John — Passos
  - 35 Flame dousers
  - 38 Bikini part
  - 39 Troubles
  - 41 Covers
  - 42 Action suffix
  - 44 Family members
  - 46 Smudges
  - 47 Hogarth subject
  - 48 Dramatist O'Casey
  - 49 Vast desert
  - 52 Salt's yarns
  - 56 Tempting Providence
  - 58 Ending with kitchen
  - 59 Remark
  - 60 Siberian river
  - 61 Eager beaver
  - 62 Division of ancient Babylonia
  - 63 North Sea feeder
  - 28 Tripoli's country, to a Roman
  - 29 Mistake
  - 30 Campus figures
  - 32 Picking solution
  - 36 Philippine natives
  - 37 Football name of fame
  - 40 Atomizer
  - 43 Neighbor of Paterson, N.J.
  - 45 Delhi garb
  - 46 Usher
  - 48 Paris divider
  - 49 Rushed
  - 50 Quartet member
  - 51 Detest
  - 52 Take a dip
  - 53 Positions for Palmer
  - 54 Donegal Bay feeder
  - 55 Char predecessor
  - 11 Offend
  - 12 Molding
  - 13 Regimental repast
  - 18 Swamp
  - 19 Get along
  - 23 Tilters
  - 24 Muslim judges
  - 25 Fastening device
  - 26 Kind of thread
  - 27 Musical instruments

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

### TIME YOUR CRITICAL DECISION

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
 ♠ A 9  
 ♥ J 9 8 4  
 ♦ 6 2  
 ♣ K Q 9 6 5

**EAST**  
 ♠ K 7 5 3 2  
 ♥ Q 5  
 ♦ J 9 7 5 3  
 ♣ J

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ J  
 ♥ K 6 3  
 ♦ A K 10 4  
 ♣ A 10 7 4 3

The bidding:  
 South West North East  
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass  
 2 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass  
 3 ♥ Pass 5 ♣ Pass  
 6 ♣ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠  
 The annual Bermuda Regional, held at the end of January at the Southampton Princess, is not only the most popular tournament on the American Contract Bridge League's calendar, it is always a fertile source of hands for the bridge columnist. This is the first of several hands from that event.

As declarer, when you are faced with a critical decision it is usually correct to postpone it as long as possible, to learn as much as you can about the hand. However, when you have only one way to land the contract, commit yourself as early as possible to conceal as much as you can about the hand from the defenders.

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**  
 NASH LID ASWARM  
 OLEO ARA STOGIE  
 DOGODDER BRUITS  
 STOPA NEA ALOES  
 OTHER HAND  
 LAMESA OLDBOYS  
 ALES SPARS ETAL  
 POL BASSO TRI  
 UHOH ELVER LEND  
 PANACEA AVERSE  
 VINCENNES  
 SEDER ELI ROAST  
 EVINGE GOGETTER  
 TIVOLI ABE HOLE  
 SLATES REM ONLY

North-South's club slam was not exactly a thing of beauty, but it had chances. If East held a singleton queen or A-Q bare of hearts, or West Q-10 alone, the slam could not be defeated. In addition, there was the possibility of an endplay if West held a doubleton queen and did not unblock.

Declarer won the ace of spades and immediately drew two rounds of trumps, ending in dummy. Since he had to find East with the ace of hearts to stand any chance, he immediately led a heart to the king. When that held and West followed with a low heart, the contract was cold as the cards lay.

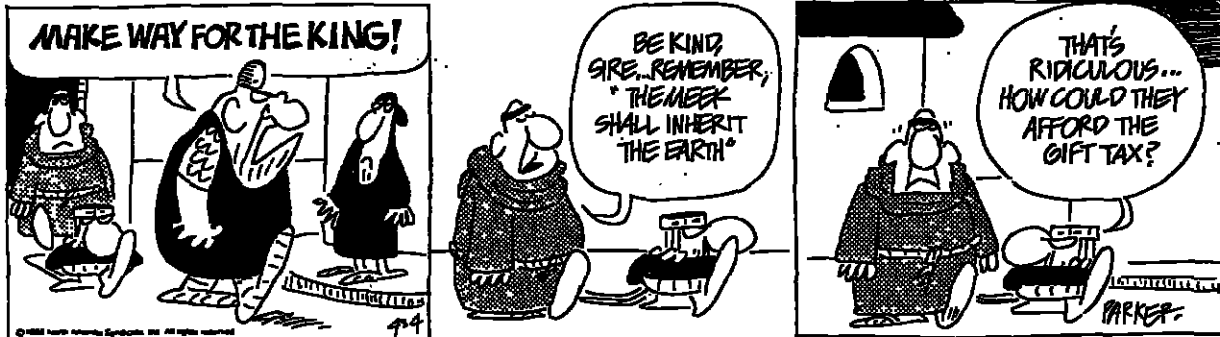
Declarer cashed A-K of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. A spade ruff in hand and a diamond on the table stripped the pointed suits, and dummy exited with a heart. In with the queen, West was forced to concede a ruff-stuff and, with it, the slam.

West could have defeated the slam by unblocking the queen of hearts under the king. Also, had declarer immediately played a heart to the king before drawing trumps, West would have been able to recover by jettisoning the lady on the second round of trumps.



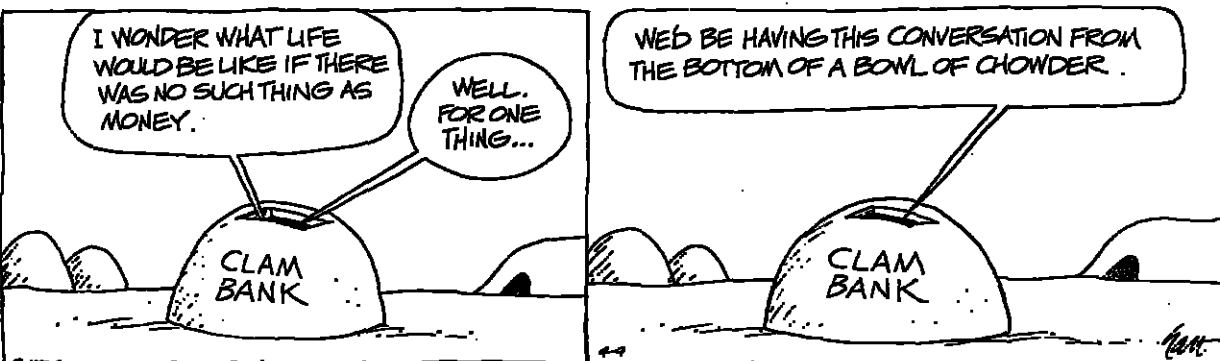
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

**Aries (March 20 - April 18)**  
 You will not be in the best of moods but should try not to lose your temper. Do not do anything that could give rise to an accusation of unfairness. Make sure you do not break any eggshells. Be a little more reticent.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**  
 The moon's influence will enhance your intuitive powers today. You should be a little more careful about what you say to others. Do not expect everyone to do exactly what you would like them to do. Be respectful.

**Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)**  
 Make sure you are able to meet your commitments. Leave secondary considerations until later. Do not forget should you have an appointment. Be wary.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)**  
 Do your best not to introduce any complications. You will be able to do something to further a friendship and should do so. Avoid the temptation to eat too many sweet things. Be reasonable.

**Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**  
 You should try to be a little more approachable. You will be able to put a good idea into action. You are liable to be rather rash, so try to restrain yourself. You should be prepared to make a few changes. Be provident.

**Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)**  
 You will be in the right mood to succeed with what you have embarked upon. You should do all you can to avoid confusion. Pay more attention to your personal affairs. Be tactful.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**  
 A good idea will help you to do what has to be done. Something you have omitted to do will rear its ugly head. Do not talk too much about what you are about to do except to your partner. Be aware.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**  
 You will not be short of ideas but not all of them will be practicable. You should think hard and long before you make a choice, particularly where a big expenditure is concerned. You should make sure you do not let a secret slip out. Be magnanimous.

**Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**  
 Do not allow yourself to be too much dominated by your likes and dislikes. Someone you did not think liked you very much will prove to be a really good friend. You should not be too keen to judge by appearances. Be more tolerant.

**Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)**  
 The prospects are good but not in all respects and directions. You should concentrate upon what you know to be most important. Place more emphasis upon love and friendship. Be considerate.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)**  
 You should not live quite so much in the past. You should make sure you do not do anything that might lose you the goodwill of others. Take the best possible care of your health. Be less insistent.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)**  
 The favourable influence of the moon will help you to be more imaginative. You should make sure you do not make too many assumptions. Avoid driving too far and too fast. Be reliable.

## The Art Buchwald Column

### 'Justice for all'

because he is too involved in giving depositions regarding his blind trust."

"That shouldn't take him all day."

"You'd be surprised how blind the A.G. has been concerning his blind trusts."

"Well, you tell him for me it doesn't look nice for the highest law enforcement officer in the land to be seen sneaking around so many grand jury rooms."

"That's an attorney general's job."

"But he keeps going in for himself and not on behalf of the government."

"The A.G. is a very fine lawyer, and he's a whiz at testifying under oath. He'd be willing to handle government business if they would just leave him alone on his personal affairs."

"They can't as long as there is a smoking gun."

"Are you finished?"

"No, I'm not. I would also like to speak to the A.G. about the recent resigna-

tions in the Justice Department."

"The attorney general has instructed me to tell anyone who calls that nothing should be read into the fact that a few disloyal turncoats jumped ship before the skipper lowered the flag."

"The rumour on the street is they resigned because the A.G. kept uptoeing in the sleaze."

"That's ridiculous. The A.G. has never been convicted of any crime. He will go down in history as having had more friends invest for him than any other Reagan Cabinet officer. That's why the President considers him a great attorney general."

"But what about the government? What did he do for the government?"

"How could he do anything for the government when he was being badgered all the time by political enemies looking into his finances?"



"They were out to get him because he had bad judgement, weren't they?"

"You said it, I didn't."

"If I could only talk to the A.G. for one moment I would wish him a nice day."

"After he finishes meeting with his lawyers he is going to have to huddle with his accountants, so everyone can get the papers together for the Senate Judiciary Committee."

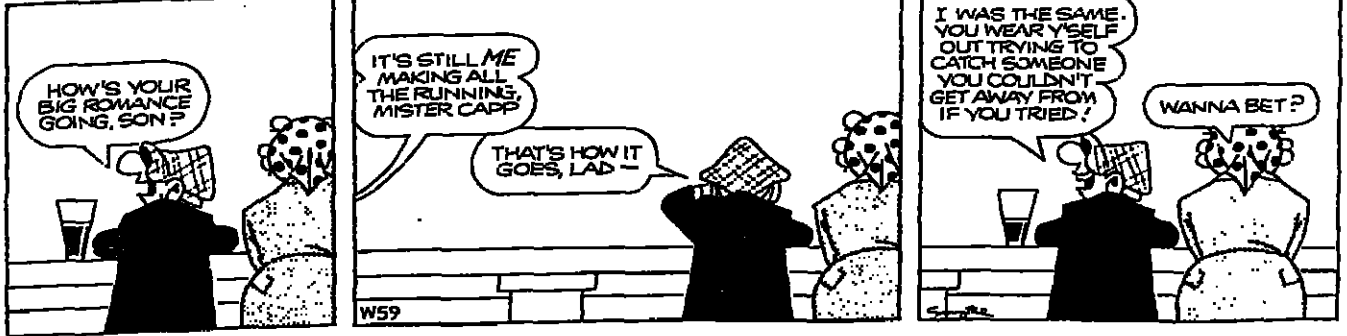
"Do you think with all the pressure the A.G. might resign?"

"What for? He loves the job. When he came over from the White House he took an oath of office that he would clear himself and his friends of any wrongdoing, even if it tied him up for the entire four years."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

## ANDY CAPP

By Smith





### Dear Junior Readers,

Perhaps some of you have seen a popular poster with the caption, "A little act of kindness can fill a heart with joy" and a picture of a child giving flowers to a friend.

When you first look at the poster you think about the joy of the child's friend as he receives the flowers. But if you actually put the thought behind the poster into action with your own act of kindness you will discover that it is your heart that is filled with joy as well as the person receiving your kindness.

An "act of kindness" can be no more than a simple thank you or helping your mother clear the table after dinner. Fill your heart and a friend's with joy by acts of kindness everyday.

Aunt Barbara

### Cross reference

The object is to discover which letter of the alphabet each number in the diagram represents. Repeat the starter letters wherever their respective numbers occur; this should give you enough clues to start guessing at likely words.

A	6	2	9	11	21	20	3	13	9	24	
B	1	3	6	8		6		1		8	
C	19		3	23	23	3	20	3	25	9	G
D	9	3				20		12			
E	11		25	9	10	2	9	2	11	7	17
F	2			23	8			4		3	
G	3	20	2	9	20	1		25	8	20	1
H	22		7				12	3		8	
I	8	1	7	4		25	12	8	11	9	23
J			5		2		32		22	3	8
K	14		15	3	7	12	5	9	2	2	8
L	9	18	9			7		20		6	7
M	16		1	12	7	23	3	2	12	7	4

REFERENCE GRID

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

A KING and queen, who had no child, wanted nothing more than to have one.

One day as the queen was bathing in a lake, a crab crawled out of the water onto the shore and said, "Your wish is to come true, for soon you will bear a daughter."

And so it happened. The king was overjoyed at the birth of a princess and ordered a great feast prepared. Among the guests invited were the famous dowager fairies of the land. But as the king had only twelve golden plates and there were thirteen of these ladies, one had to be left out. The invited fairies all came, and at the end of the banquet, each stepped forward to present the child with a gift. The first endowed her with virtue, the second gave her beauty, until each in turn had bestowed on the little princess all the worldly blessings anyone could wish for.

But just as the eleventh fairy had announced her gift, the thirteenth, furious that she had not been invited, appeared in the hall and cried out, "Because I was not asked to come here, I say that when your daughter is fifteen, she will prick herself on a spindle and fall dead."

The parents were terrified at these words, but the twelfth fairy, who had not yet spoken, said, "No, she will not die. Instead she will fall into a deep sleep that will last for a hundred years."

The king, who hoped

## Brier Rose

somehow to save his beloved child, ordered all the spindles in the kingdom destroyed. The princess grew up and became a miracle of beauty. One day soon after her fifteenth birthday, the king and queen went visiting and the princess remained behind in the palace. She wandered about the grounds at will and finally came upon an ancient tower with a narrow stairway leading up to it. She was curious, and followed the stairs to the top where there was a little door with a key in its lock. She turned the key and the door sprang open, revealing a small room where an old woman sat spinning flax. She liked the old woman on sight and soon asked her if she might not try some spinning her-

self. As she spoke, she teasingly reached for the spindle and had barely touched it when it pricked her. She fell down and was at once in a deep sleep.

The king and queen and their retinue, had at that moment returned to the palace, and the whole court began to fall asleep: the horses in the stables, the doves on the roof, the mottled hunting dogs in the courtyard, the flies on the walls—even the fire in the hearth flickered and went out. The roast stopped sputtering; the cook, who was about to pull the hair of the kitchen boy, let him go; and the maid dropped the hen she was plucking. A thick hedge of thorn and bramble sprang up around the castle. It rose higher and higher until the



castle was completely hidden from view.

Many princes heard about beautiful Brier Rose and came to the sleeping court hoping to break the spell that held it. But not one of them was able to force his way through the thick hedge that surrounded the castle. They became imprisoned in the clawlike brambles. Once in their grasp, the princes were unable to free themselves and remained there, moaning until they died.

In this way many years went by, until it happened that a prince who was travelling through the land heard from an old man that, behind a thick bramble hedge, there stood a castle where, it was believed, a wonderfully beautiful princess and her entire court slept and could not be awakened.

"That does not frighten me," said the prince. "I will force my way through and free Brier Rose." He made his way to the place where the tall hedge stood, and when he came close to it, he found not brambles, but blossoms that separated to let him pass, but which immediately turned to thorns again behind him. He soon reached the castle and found the horses and mottled hunting dogs asleep in the courtyard. On the roof the doves sat with their heads tucked beneath their wings. The prince entered the castle and saw the flies asleep on the walls, the hearth cold, the cook and maid asleep in the kitchen. He continued on



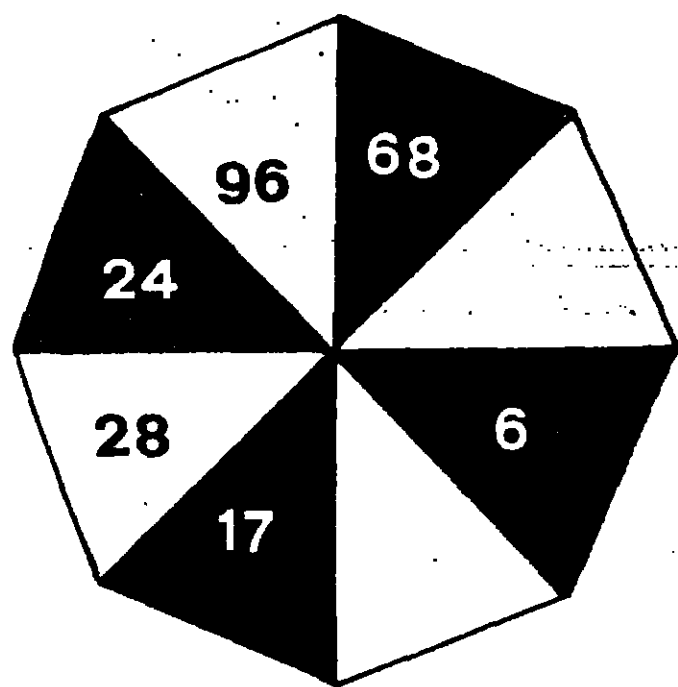
through the entire silent household, and finally he came to the sleeping king and queen. It was so still that he could hear his own breathing.

At last he entered the ancient tower in which Brier Rose lay sleeping. The prince was so awed by her beauty, that he knelt down and kissed her. She awoke at once, as did the king and queen, and the entire court. The horses

and the dogs awoke, the doves moved on the roof and the flies on the walls. In the kitchen the fire rekindled itself and continued cooking the roast, which sputtered on. The cook got up and boxed the kitchen boy's ears and the maid finished brushing the hair. The wedding of Brier Rose and the prince was celebrated that day, and they lived happily ever after.

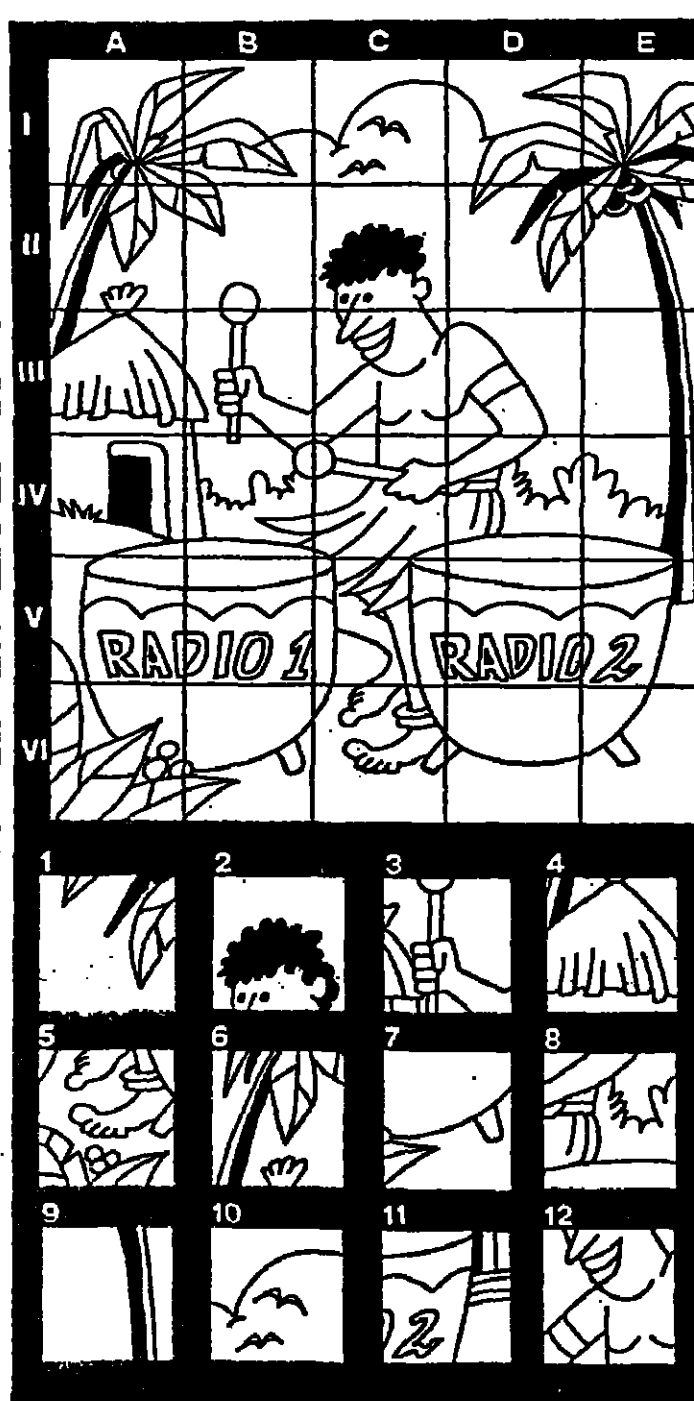
### Mind jogger

Which numbers logically fit into the blank segments?



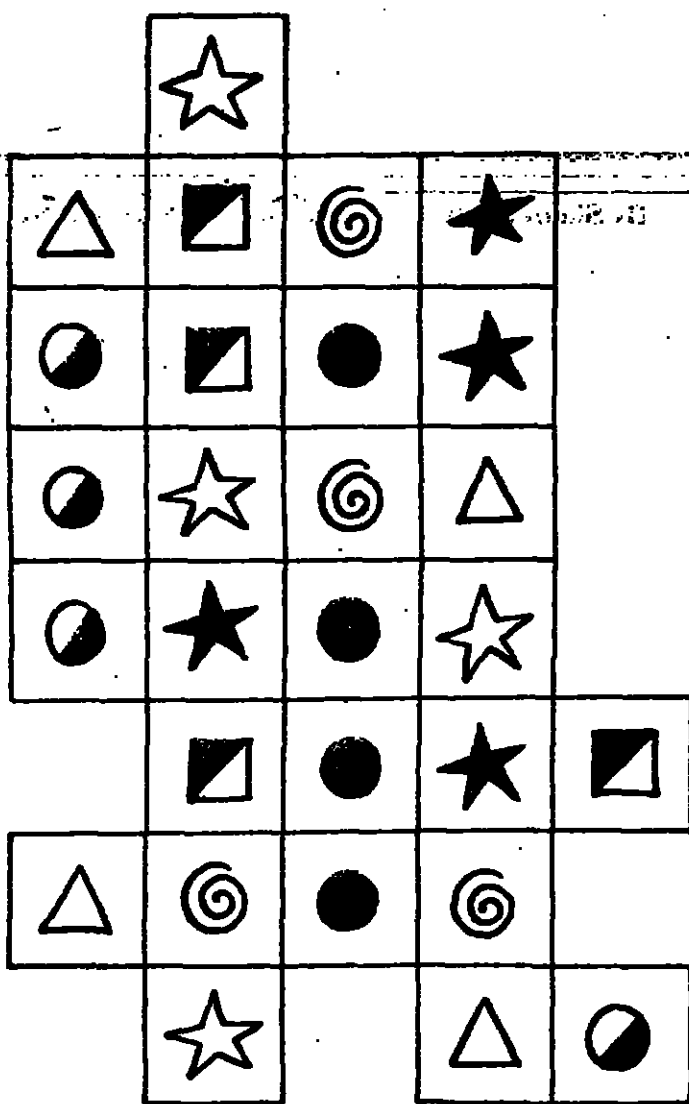
### Matching drums

Which of the twelve small pictures are exact copies of divisions of the large picture?



### Equal shares

Can you divide this rectangle into four equally shaped and sized areas, each part containing one of each of the seven symbols shown?



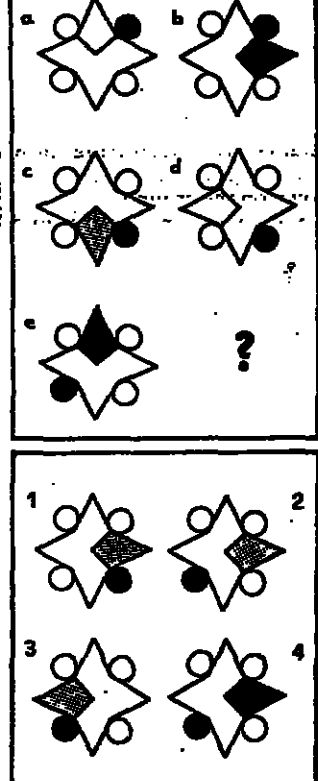
### Alphabet stew

Knowing that 6213 + 67 = ABCD, that one A equals two T and one B equals two N, can you replace each of the letters with their correct number so that the multiplication sum is correct?



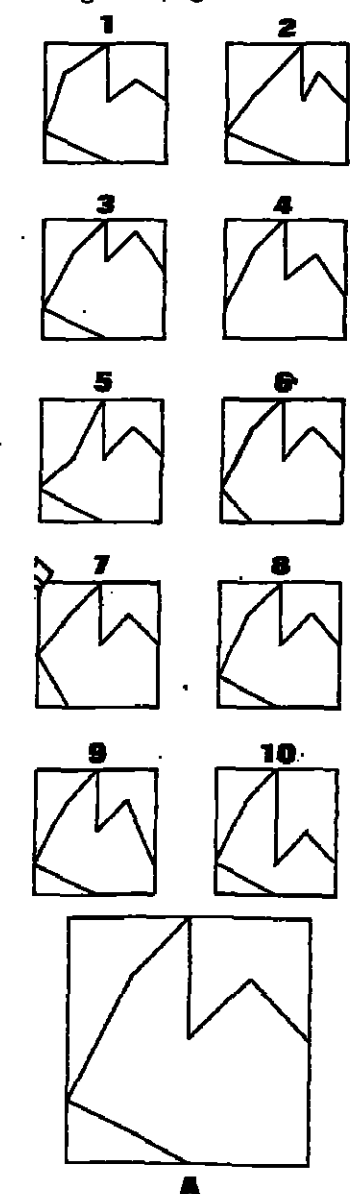
### It's logic

Which of the four numbered figures logically fits in place of the question mark?



### Bigger figure

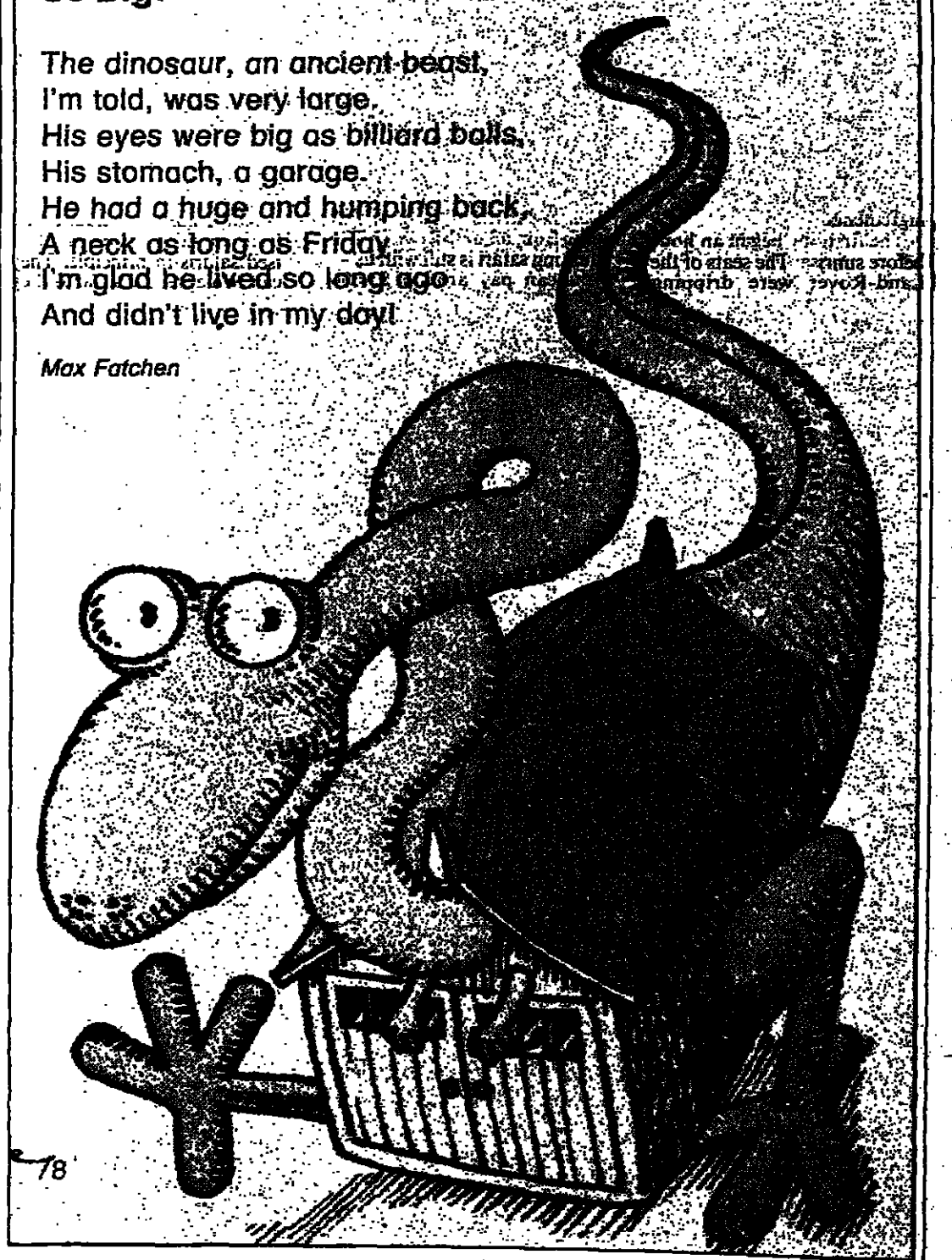
Which of the ten numbered figures is the same as the enlargement, figure A?



### So Big!

The dinosaur, an ancient beast,  
I'm told, was very large.  
His eyes were big as billiard balls,  
His stomach, a garage.  
He had a huge and humping back,  
A neck as long as Friday.  
I'm glad he lived so long ago,  
And didn't live in my day!

Max Fatchen



### Asia

Where to find the most beautiful city in Japan

The cities of Japan have grown extremely rapidly since the Second World War mainly because of the spread of new industries which provided work for people but made the cities rather ugly. One city escaped this fate: Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan founded by the Emperor Kwammu in A.D. 794. For a thousand years Kyoto was the capital of the Japanese empire. During this time it became rich in monuments and the architecture of its buildings resembled that of Chinese cities. Kyoto had stout walls built all round it

as a defence against attackers and the city was approached through eighteen gates in the walls. Inside were many gardens and temples of the Buddhist and Shinto religions.

Kyoto is also famous for its works of art and craftsmanship, especially porcelain and silks, and is today visited by many tourists.

Where the city of Troy stood  
Until the 1850s many historians thought that the great adventures described by Homer in the Iliad and Odyssey were all fables which had existed only in the poet's imagination. But between 1870 and 1890 excavations carried out by a German businessman, Heinrich Schliemann,

established not only that the great city had actually existed but that nine different Troys had stood on the spot. Each city had been destroyed and a new one rebuilt during a period of 3,000 years.

Later excavations by other archaeologists confirmed Schliemann's belief that these ruins were really the remains of Troy. The archaeologists also found that the seventh stratum, or layer, of the ruins dated back to the great battles and siege in which this city, ruled by King Priam, was destroyed. Today we are certain that Troy did exist and that its towers rose from the summit of a hill called Hisarlik that now stands in Turkey by the waters of the Hellespont.



45-day adventure of 7,011 miles

# From London to China, by train

By Betty M. Ames

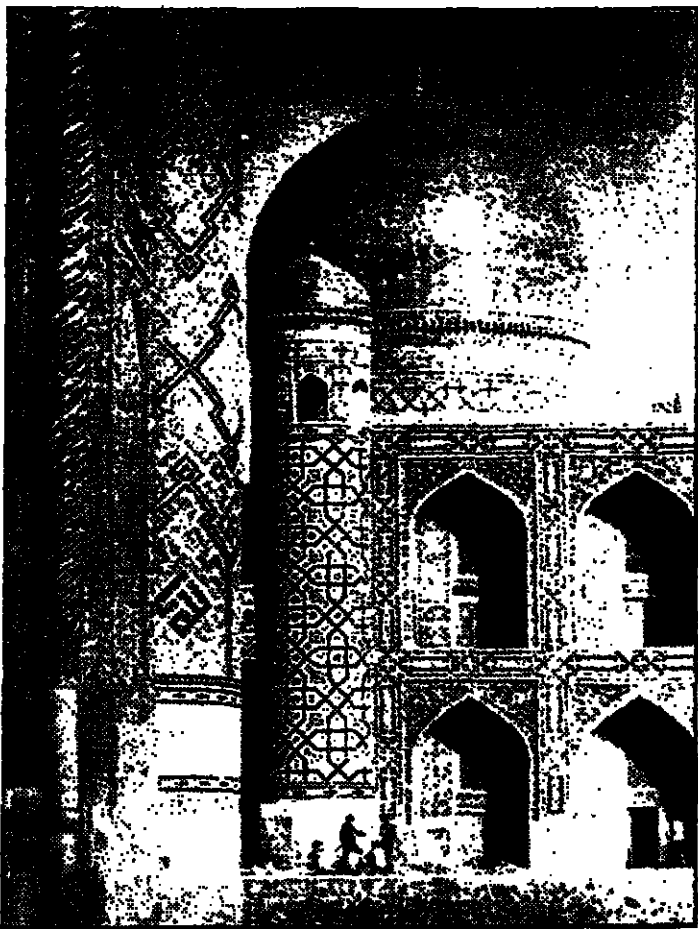
LONDON — My train-buff husband was ecstatic about chugging from London to Xian, China. I had a strong sense of trepidation, since I had braved the Red Arrow from Peking to London — via Mongolia, Siberia, and Moscow — only the year before.

But as the plans unfolded, I began to realize that this trip, initially offered three years ago by Voyages Jules Verne in London, was a real first in itinerary and mode of travel. Not only would my husband and I have a compartment to ourselves on this maiden voyage, but the entire train would be private with the exception of some of the European rail lines, and even there our tour would have private cars.

When we went, the trip was called "2100 Years of the Silk Road." Since then, it was renamed "On the Tracks of Marco Polo." The send-off from London, we found, was indeed fitting for an incredible 45-day adventure of 7,011 miles.

At night we were booked into hotels that were the best each stop had to offer, and in the larger cities the accommodations were excellent. Sometimes a two-night stand gave us extra time for exploration as well as the usually fine tours offered in each city. Lavish meals were prepared for us in every country, either on the train or in restaurants.

After boarding our train in London, we visited Paris, Salzburg, and Vienna. In Budapest, our hotel, the luxurious Intercontinental, overlooked the



Samarkand, USSR: one stop on the Marco Polo trail

Danube, and on the train to Bucharest we followed the Danube and looked out on red-tiled roofs and green hills.

I would have thought the trip by steam train from Bucharest to Sinaia in Transylvania, up an autumn-coloured valley beside a rushing river, was the most beautiful, even if we had not

bused through even more magnificent countryside to see Dracula's many-tiered castle, high on a hill. Yes, Dracula lived there from 1456 to 1462. He was a hero as a fighter against Turks. "Vlad the Impaler," he was called, but he was not a vampire, as English novelist Bram Stoker would

have him.

The first part of our journey followed the route of the original Orient Express trains. At Varna, Bulgaria, we boarded ships, just as the Orient Express travellers used to do, and slept overnight as we crossed the Black Sea. We awakened as the ship passed through the Bosphorus and into the minareted splendour of Istanbul. Some travellers left us at this point, but 100 of us began the Silk Road across Turkey by steam train. We were intrigued by views of mud huts and barren mountains.

As we moved eastward in Turkey, the hotels, had they been star-ranked, would have dropped stars rapidly as we progressed. Lodgings were in small towns, with few visitors from the West.

We felt so engulfed in a culture very different from our own that every new experience called for tolerance and brought the excitement of discovery. To have our own room with bath seemed remarkable to us. From our hotel balcony in Erzurum, Turkey, we overlooked the only paved street, saw people hauling water from the town pump, and women covered in brown burlap with only their eyes showing.

From an overnight in Kayseri, in the province of Cappadocia, we bused to the Goreme Valley, where we had the thrill of seeing churches and homes dating from the 11th century carved right into wind-shaped columns of volcanic rock. The churches came complete with carved pillars and religious frescoes painted on the cave walls.

After six days we came to the border between Turkey and the Soviet Union. It was an exciting and somewhat tense moment as we left our Turkish train, crossed a platform, and boarded brand-new sleeping cars on the Soviet train. It had come across the 100-year barrier, closed for 35 years, for the express purpose of taking us aboard.

Our train took us through the republics of Georgia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan. Beautiful, mountainous Tbilisi, the Caspian Sea, and the markets of Bukhara highlighted our journey.

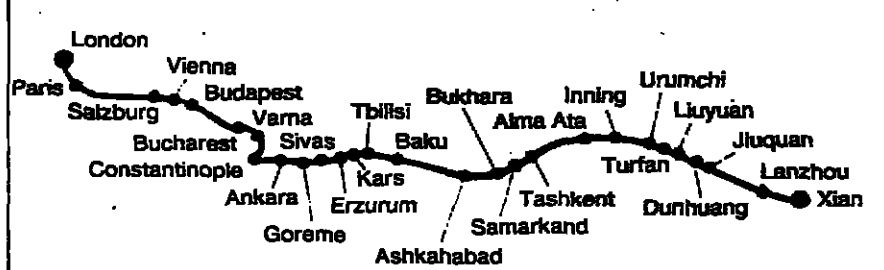
At fabled Samarkand, where my husband and I went off on our own to the Pamirs with a hired driver, we had an exhilarating hike and met two villagers who had come by donkey to fill baskets with wild apples for market. Later, we came upon a small girl and her little brother tending a large herd of sheep.

Final stops in the Soviet Union were modern Tashkent, where 40 per cent of the city was rebuilt after a 1966 earthquake, and Alma-Ata, snuggled at the foot of the towering Alatau Mountains, where the Medeo Olympic Speed Skating rink was built at an altitude of 5,000 feet. Then our hosts bused us to the Chinese border 185 miles away.

Travelling through a vast desert with snowy mountains in the distance, we rounded a bend into the Charyn River Canyon and stopped. There, in the middle of nowhere, we found tables laid out for us, and waiters barbecuing shish kebabs and serving tea.

## Surprise

The next surprise came a few hours later. When we drove into the isolated town of Panfilov, a great portion of the 30,000 residents were standing on the street corners to welcome us and gaze on their first tourists. A sumptuous banquet with all the town dignitaries was spread out in the town hall, and local musicians and dancers entertained nonstop. The facial features of the people reflected the fact that we were



nearing China. We felt an air of suspense when at nightfall we reached the barbed-wire border that had not been open to tourists since 1949. Customs accomplished, we were delivered by the Soviet guides, and walked to

the Chinese buses. We drove a short distance to a great hoopla of percussion and dancers. From the old city of Inning, where we spent the night we travelled by bus over the Tianshan Mountains. At 8,000 feet, the sapphire blue of Lake

Sayram suddenly spread out before us. As we travelled beside it, a herd of wild horses galloped by in the desert.

We saw camels and yerts, and farmers driving their trucks at break-neck speed to bring their produce to market. After an overnight in a guesthouse in the small, dusty town of Shihzei, we arrived at Urumchi, the Western Provinces' biggest city, and checked into a large, modern hotel.

Two days later we boarded our smooth Chinese steam train and settled into our lace-curtained compartment that we had for the rest of the trip. Our train waited for us while we spent nights at comfortable hotels in Turfan, Dunhuang, Jiucuan, and Lanzhou, then chugged through the spectacular Wei River Valley with its mountains, terraced for farming on even the steepest slopes.

The last stop, Xian, provided the warmest welcome of all. Five hundred railway workers' children in costume and makeup greeted us on the platform, rhythmically waving pompons, beating drums, and saying "warm welcome" in Chinese. Our stay in Xian was the end of our magical voyage, where the world's wonders flashed before us as though by the touch of a wand.

If you go — The trip is scheduled each September. Travellers may arrange to take a shorter portion of the journey. For more information on this or other train trips, contact Voyages Jules Verne, 10 Glentworth St., London, N.W.1. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor.



The last stop on the Marco Polo adventure is Xian, China, near Hua Ching hot springs.

By Andrew Powell

ON my very first morning in an African game park I came to an important conclusion: the recipe for a memorable safari is a great deal more complicated than anyone ever imagines. Seven years and as many safaris later, I am still experimenting with different permutations of ingredients.

The first day began an hour before sunrise. The seats of the Land-Rover were dripping with dew as we lurched out of the camp on to a dirt road, crashing from pothole to pot hole, the body of the vehicle trying to wrench itself from the chassis in the classic African manner. After about 10 minutes the driver pulled off the track and stopped. We sat expectantly, shivering, waiting for the dawn.

## Landscape

Within minutes the elements of the landscape began to separate themselves from the early-morning mist and as the light strengthened, the animals gradually emerged from the murk. Thousands of them. There were dense herds of buffalo, zebra and wildebeest and, scattered at random, smaller groups of waterbuck, hartebeest, topi and Thomson's gazelle. A short way off, half a dozen elephants, muddy brown after a midnight wallow, were engaged in some energetic deforestation, while a giraffe fastidiously trimmed the topiary of a flat-topped acacia.

In the next couple of hours we drove little more than a mile across Kenya's Masai Mara, but we still managed to encounter a pride of lions, a pair of cheetah and dozens of less obviously newsworthy animals: hyena, jackal, hippo, porcupine, baboon, warthog, impala, mongoose. By 7.30 am the sun was fully up and quite hot. "We're outside the reserve now," my guide shouted through the roof hatch. "We'll get out, stretch our legs and have some coffee." Having recently seen five full grown lions no more than a quarter of a mile away I considered voicing doubts about the wisdom of this impromptu picnic, but it was too late: he was already striding away towards a convenient flat-rock with drink and sandwiches. Setting one boot cautiously on to the freshly cropped grass, I saw the last of the antelope bounding off in the direction of Tanzania. (I am still amazed by wild animals' indifference to safari vehicles and their terror at the sight of a solitary human being.) "So this is it," I thought, standing with both feet on the turf. "This is Africa."

Instantly I realised the absurdity of the reflection. After all, three days had passed since the delights of Nairobi customs. Nonetheless the impression persisted. It was not until I stood on the ground with nothing but the breeze between me and the animals, away from civilization in all its forms (though admittedly not far away from the Land-Rover

# Africa, on foot

door) that I felt I had truly arrived.

"Safari" is a Swahili word, derived from the Arabic "safar", meaning a journey. My dictionary gives the English definition as "a hunting expedition in Africa looking at wildlife from a Land-Rover". The hunting safari is still with us — you can pay around \$5,000 (about \$2,600) to bump off a leopard in any number of countries if you feel so inclined — but there are now many fewer people determined to have glass eyes staring at them from their living-room walls.

"But you know it's nothing to do with killing animals," the hunting apologists always say. "It's the bush; getting out in the horn-scrub, smelling the dust, being frightened, looking at the Milky Way from a sleeping bag, feeling the ground underneath your pillow tremble when the lions roar, following their spoor next morning... That's what it's about. The avistatic emotions. The race memory. It's in all of us."

Of course they are absolutely right. Apart from a tiny minority who just enjoyed blasting away at elephants, these are the reasons why many people earlier this century went on hunting safaris and why so many of them became obsessed with Africa. And these are precisely the qualities that are missing from the modern two

weeks in Kenya, staying in air-conditioned lodges, being driven around in mini-buses. The tourist "safari" is easy, fairly comfortable and safe. It may be the same word, but it's a very different experience.

Not, I hasten to add, that I have anything against motorised safaris in principle. They can be marvellous as far as they go. If you want to see a lot of animals, to observe them close-up, to take photographs, then you will have to be on wheels. The problem is just that you will always be a spectator, never a participant. In addition, some game parks — mostly in Kenya — are getting indecently crowded.

## Nature

But as Darwin pointed out more than a century ago, we are not spectators of nature, we are part of it, and perhaps this goes some way to accounting for the increased interest in walking safaris.

Safaris on foot have all the virtues of the old-fashioned hunting kind, without the guns. They generate the adrenalin and provide the magic to send you back to Laurens van der Post's Kalahari books with renewed enthusiasm. Admittedly they do have limitations: you see many fewer animals and it is very difficult to get close to them. (In the case of lion, buffalo, elephant and rhino, you may well feel a few

hundred yards to be quite close enough.) Above all, on walking safaris you generally cannot go inside game reserves, only along the edge of them — though of course nobody has told the animals precisely where the edge is.

All such drawbacks are, however, forgotten as you tip-toe from bush to bush up to a herd of quietly browsing elephants. It's surprising how much bigger they look from down on the ground.

So what kind of fit and intrepid people are suited to this kind of experience? The answer is virtually anyone, because a walking safari may be a three-hour stroll in search of the ice bucket and the Muscadet (Galana Ranch, Tsavo, Kenya) or a week on the march, sleeping outside on the ground at night (the Selous, Tanzania). Nor of course does a walking safari preclude a few days of the four-wheeled variety.

If called upon to describe the best of all possible fortnights in Africa, I might well suggest a combination of week on foot somewhere like Mana Pools in Zimbabwe, combined with a Land-Rover week in, say, Tanzania's Serengeti. This way you can have the best of both worlds.

The area of Africa best known for walking safaris is undoubtedly the Luangwa Valley in Zambia, and in southern Africa generally people are encouraged to get out on foot much more than in Kenya and Tanzania.



A Masai warrior enjoys the benefits of modern technology.

By Simov Scott Plummer

CURVING in a long S down the South China Sea, Vietnam is terra incognita to all but a handful of Western travellers. Yet it has 1,875 miles of coast, a mountainous interior of pristine beauty and unusual historical monuments. For those who want something less familiar, and more arduous, than the stereotyped Far East package, it could be a rewarding choice.

To visit Vietnam is to take a step into the past. This is especially so in Hanoi, the capital, whose tree-lined streets and shuttered villas have changed little since the French left in 1954.

As in Peking, the main means of transport is the bicycle. Millions of them glide through the city, weaving in and out of each other at intersections without the constraints of traffic lights or white lines.

This is the best way to discover Hanoi but you will need to borrow a bike; the Vietnamese have not yet taken up the Chinese practice of hiring them out.

Among the sights are the Temple of Literature, which is dedicated to Confucius and became Vietnam's first university in the 11th century; the old quarter, which contains the Dong Xuan market and small streets named after different trades; a military museum which displays captured French and American weapons; and large expanses of water, first of all the Red River, on whose right bank the city stands, but also three lakes.

The hotel in which I stayed, the Thong Nhat, has the same colonial charm as the city in general. A revolving wooden door leads into the foyer and the rooms have a rare spaciousness for this cost-conscious age.

However, they are also grubby from years of use and their electrical wiring is alarmingly primitive. If you want something more modern, try the Thanh Loi, a hotel built out into one of the lakes by the Cubans.

Ho Chi Minh City, at the other end of the country, is busier and more cosmopolitan than the capital. Called Saigon until its capture by the Communists in 1975, it retains something of its capitalist past.

The hotels are comfortable, the restaurants do brisk business and the shops and street stalls sell Japanese electronic equipment and American cigarettes.

# Off the beaten track in Hanoi



The best way to see Hanoi is on a bike.

From my room in the Cuu Long (formerly Majestic) Hotel I had a splendid view over the Saigon River and the docks, one of the chief attractions of the city. Also worth visiting are the Ben Thanh market, the biggest emporium in Vietnam, and Cholon, a Chinatown with 500,000 inhabitants.

Ho Chi Minh City is within easy reach of the Mekong delta, in which one of the world's greatest rivers divides into nine arms. Below it, on the coast, is the resort of Vung Tau, where you can bathe all year round.

No tour of Vietnam would be complete without a visit to Hue in the centre of the country. The old capital of the Annamese emperors lies on the Perfume

River and is renowned for its Citadel — the equivalent of Peking's Forbidden City — its temples and its royal tombs.

Many of the monuments show the ravages of war and weather. In the Citadel the Hall of Supreme Harmony is peppered with bullet marks from the Communist Tet offensive of 1968, while in the museum I found myself shifting furniture inlaid with mother-of-pearl away from rain pouring through holes in the roof.

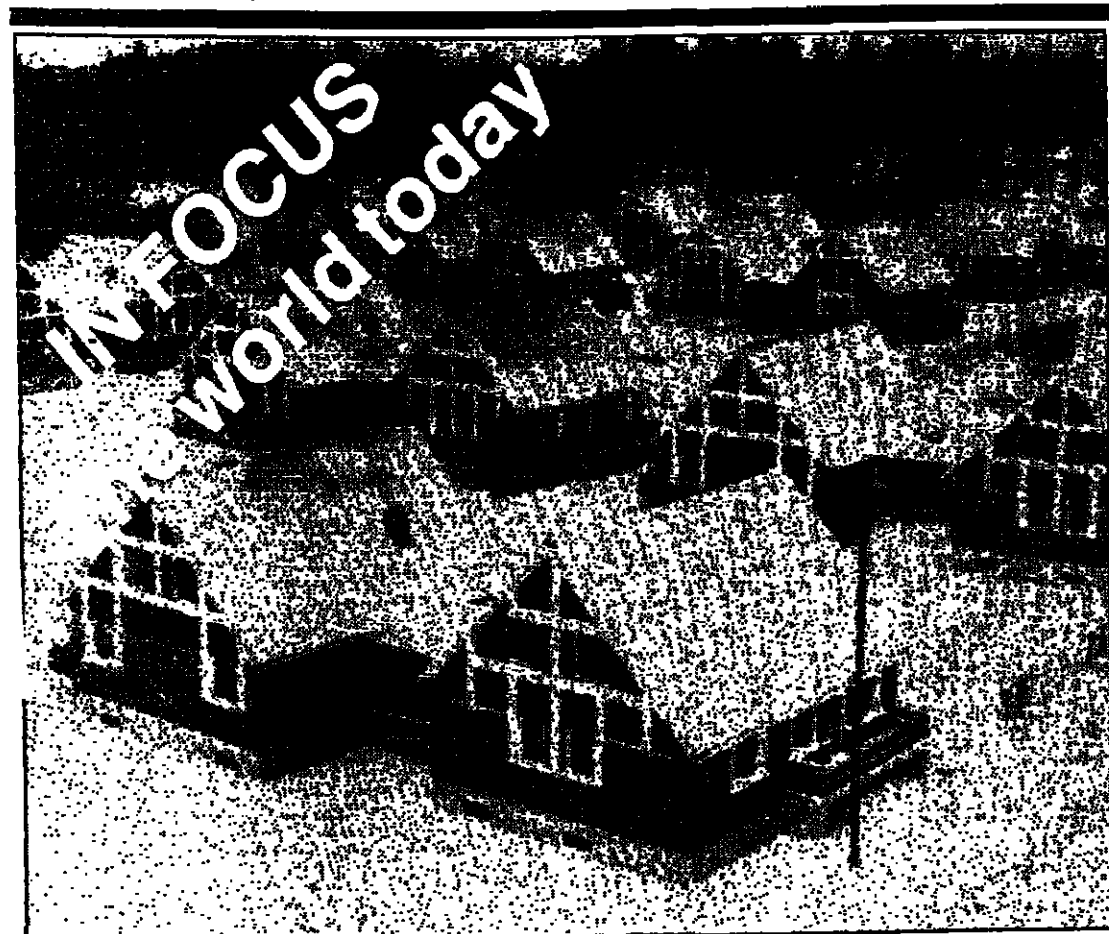
Some work has been done but funds are hopelessly inadequate. Among the buildings restored is the 17th-century Thien Mu pagoda on the Perfume River. In the garden behind is an old Austin 105 Six in which the Buddhist monk

Thich Quang Duc drove to immolate himself on the streets of Saigon in 1963 in protest against the government.

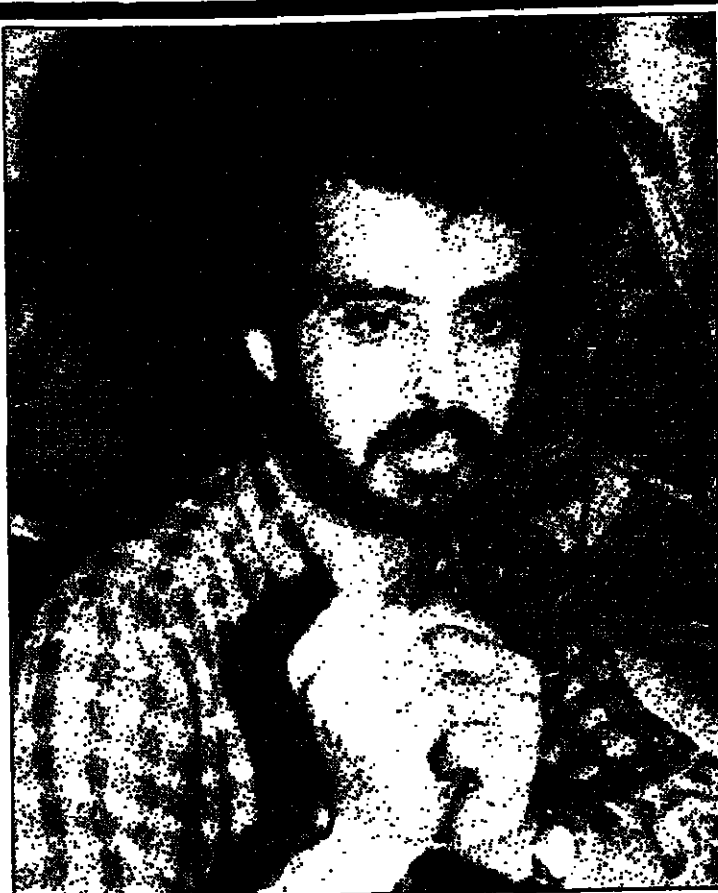
In Vietnam you are off the tourist-beaten track and the going can be rough. The food is poor and the water dirty so it is essential to carry a remedy for stomach upsets. You are also advised to take malaria pills and to have yourself inoculated against typhoid, cholera, tetanus, polio, hepatitis and Japanese encephalitis.

A lesser hazard is the exchange rate. There is a wide discrepancy between the number of dong you get to the dollar officially at the bank and the illegal black market rate. A legal tourist rate lies somewhere between the two.





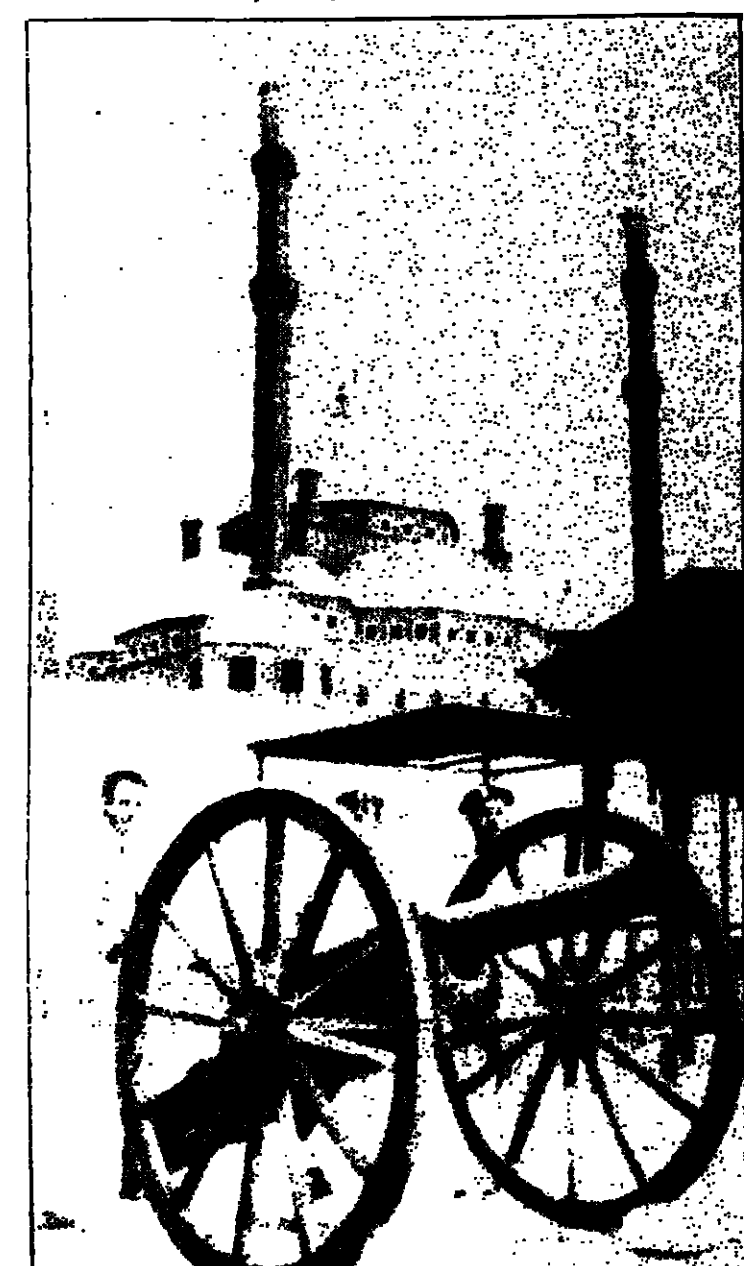
A VIEW of the new cottages that have been built in the township of Slavutich in the Ukraine near the site of the 1986 nuclear accident at Chernobyl. The homes are for the staff of the nuclear plant. (Reuter wirephoto)



ONE of the released passengers shows how the hijackers kept him handcuffed using a plastic strap. (Reuter wirephoto)



TWO of the released 31 hostages from the Kuwait Airways 747 in Algiers tell of their 16 days as hostages aboard the hijacked airliner. The toy bear and radio in the foreground are hand-luggage they brought off the aircraft with them. (Reuter wirephoto)



THREE policemen prepare to fire a 150-year-old British-made cannon at dusk to announce to Cairo's 12 million inhabitants, that it is time to eat, after a sunrise to dusk day of fasting during the holy month of Ramadan observed by Muslims. (Reuter wirephoto)



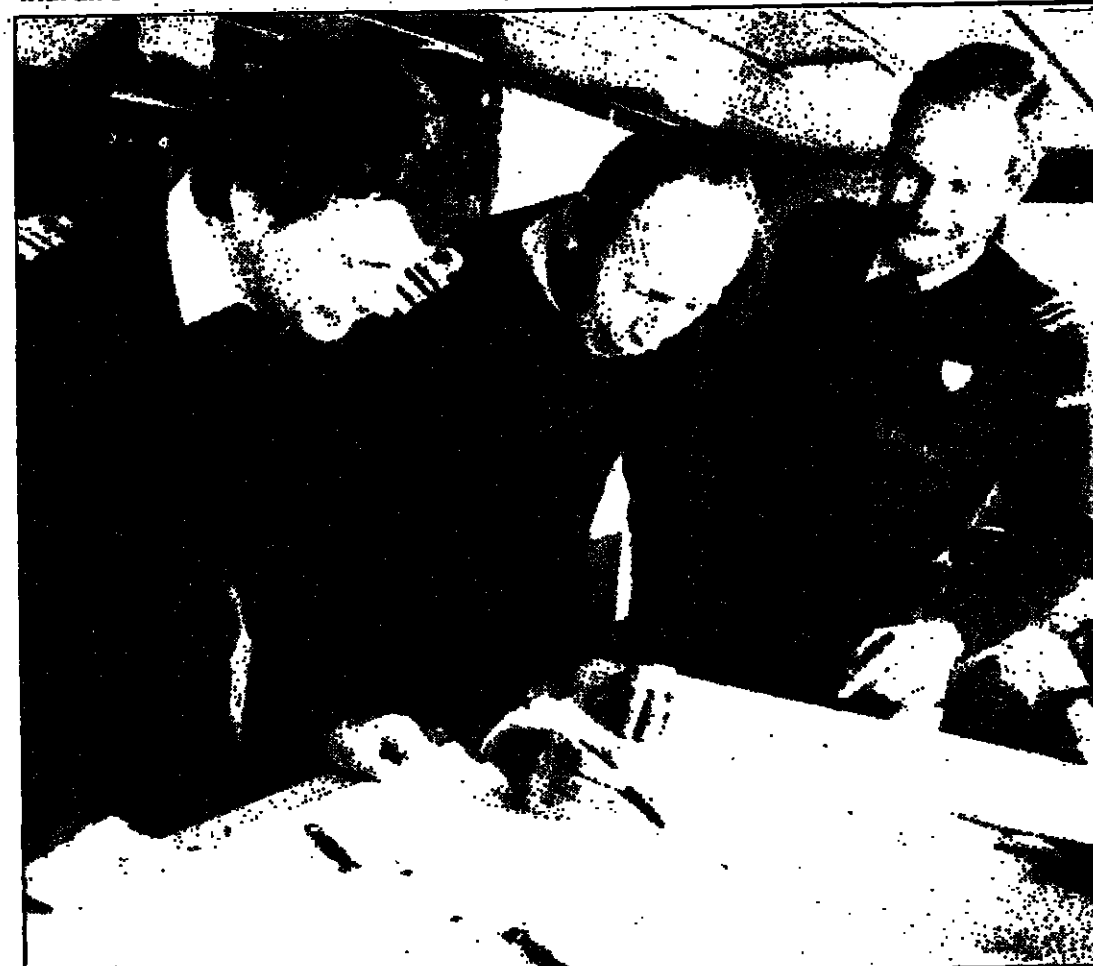
THE pilot of the Kuwait Airways Boeing jet 747 captain Subhi Naim Youssef talks to the press shortly after being released from his hijacked airliner. Youssef (right) is pictured with an unidentified member of the crew (left). (Reuter wirephoto)



YOUNG and old celebrate the release of the hostages held aboard the hijacked airliner for 16 days. (Kuna picture)



A REPRODUCTION of a photo of US hostage Joseph James Cicippio, sent along with a statement by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation to Beirut's independent An Nahar newspaper on Tuesday. The group threatened to harm two Americans it holds if any attempt was made to storm the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner in Algiers. (Reuter wirephoto)



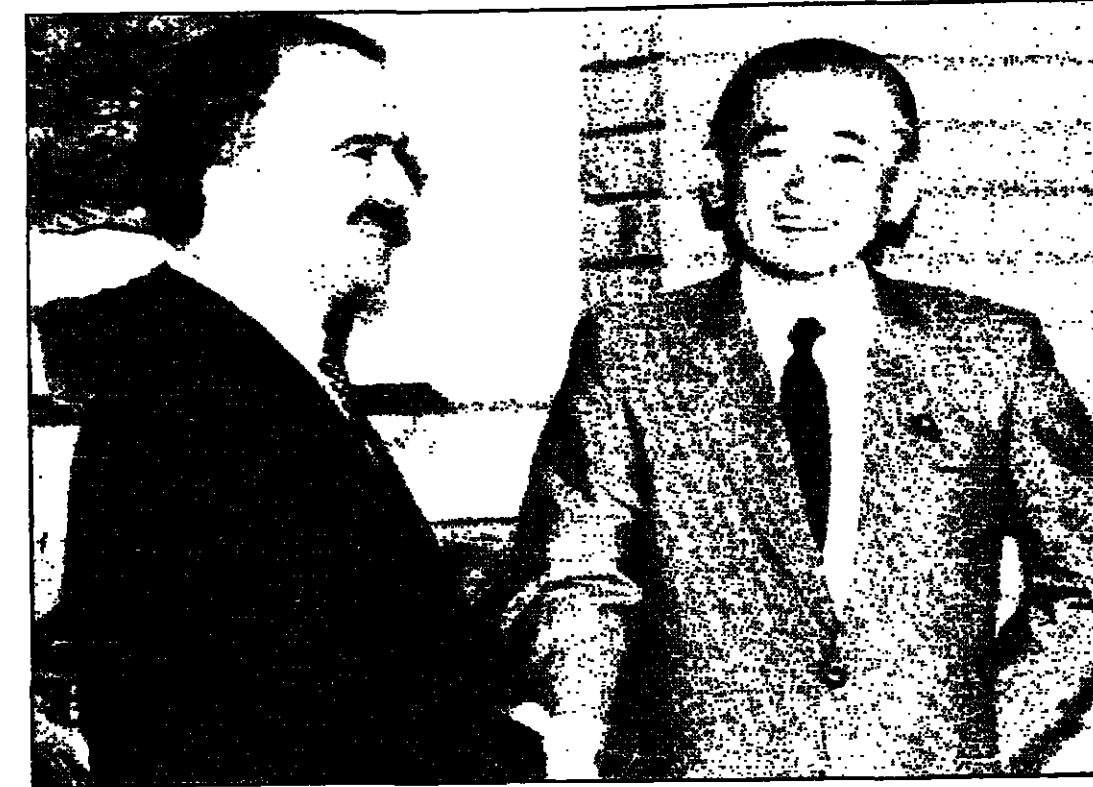
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER Bent Thygesen of the Royal Danish Navy (left), Commander Bob Cuypers of the Belgian Navy (centre) and Lieutenant Commander Reinhard Wilhelm of the West German Navy check the position of the coastal mine-layer HDMS 'Lossen' during the Nato exercise Blue Harrier in the North Sea on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



PALESTINIAN mourners raise their hands in the victory sign as an ambulance carrying the coffin of slain Palestinian military commander Abu Jihad drives through the streets of Damascus on Tuesday. Abu Jihad was machine-gunned in his home in Tunis on Saturday. (Reuter wirephoto)



KATARINA WITT (left) from the German Democratic Republic and Brian Boltano from the US, both world champions and gold-medallists in figure skating, chat during the ice-Gala in Stuttgart on Tuesday. (Reuter wirephoto)



JORDAN'S Crown Prince El Hassan (left) meets with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita at the latter's official residence in Tokyo yesterday. Hassan flew into Tokyo on Tuesday for a five-day official visit to Japan. (Reuter wirephoto)



RUSSIAN-BORN dancer Rudolf Nureyev stretches in preparation for a performance in Columbia, South Carolina, on Tuesday, as part of the University of South Carolina's Year of the Arts presentations. (Reuter wirephoto)



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Development finance vital for overall growth

## New debate needed on future of world economy

VIENNA, April 20. (Opecna): The time is right for a new debate on the future of the world economy, especially the prospects of developing countries, according to Dr Seyyid Abdulai, director general of the Opec Fund for International Development.

He was speaking on Friday in Washington at the annual meeting of the joint ministerial committee of the boards of governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on "transfer of real resources to developing countries."

In his statement entitled "development finance in the 1990s and beyond", Abdulai said a pragmatic effort was required to chart the broad outlines of what could reasonably be done by all concerned to help plan an acceptable medium-term future for developing countries.

The dialogue between nations had gained momentum, he said, adding that recent historical developments in the Soviet Union, China and the less visible, but real progress in perceiving, if not solving, major economic problems were new factors which could not be ignored.

He added that of even greater importance were the "thawing winds" which seemed to be leading to political settlements on many fronts without which no debate on economic matters could be conducted.

The Opec Fund chief stressed that many developing countries had implemented policies prescribed in the recent past and "they are today looking at the results."

### Lead

"It is most urgent that a perspective be given to them," he said, adding that the development committee was well placed to take the lead.

Abdulai expressed his concern at the absence of a concerted and coordinated effort to establish a framework for development finance in the 1990s and beyond.

### Growth

He said a substantial proportion of the development finance institutions' funding was now absorbed by debt servicing and the liquidation to the debt "overhang", while structural adjustment programmes and urgent basic social schemes were starved of funds.

Growth, which was a prerequisite for economic adjustment and debt liquidation, was not adequately provided for, he said, adding that the reluctance of private institutions and commercial banks to ensure a continuous flow of funds was a further burden on the shoulders of development finance institutions.

He said the increase in the resource base of development finance institutions had emerged from the realisation that the debt overhang would not be solved without a substantial contribution from these institutions.

Additional funds, he said, should be applied to the solution of problems incurred by existing investments. Thus, the decline in the total volume of flows observed today, which was accounted for mostly by the decline in flows from commercial banks and export credit agencies, left a "yawning gap" in the demand of the developing countries for external financing.

Abdulai said little progress had been achieved in the promotion of trade, and commodity prices remained "doggedly depressed". The "much-hoped-for impetus" expected from the "engine" of the developed economies was yet to materialise.

## World Business Summary

### US stock market allowed operations in London

LONDON, April 20. (Reuters): Britain gave permission yesterday for the first foreign stock market to operate in London's financial district alongside established British institutions. Stock market analysts said the move, resisted by some members of the London Stock Exchange, was likely to be seen by financial markets as a milestone in the globalisation of securities trading. The Department of Trade and Industry said in a statement it was granting the US-based Nasdaq Company, an electronic share-dealing system, full legal rights to operate as an overseas investment exchange in London. Nasdaq, which has the world's third-largest securities market turnover behind the New York and Tokyo exchanges, said the go-ahead meant British-based dealers could trade directly with their US counterparts. Until yesterday British brokers had to use members of Nasdaq (the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations) who were based in the United States to execute orders.

The new link allows London market-makers to enter quotes for some 350 securities on Nasdaq. London Stock Exchange chairman Sir Nicholas Goodison said he was not alarmed by the decision to allow Nasdaq to operate. "It's no reason for the international (London) stock exchange to be alarmed or resentful. We are neither," he said in a statement. Corporate Affairs Minister Francis Maude said he was very pleased by the approval. "We attach great significance to the desire of overseas stock exchanges to operate in the UK because it emphasises the importance of the City of London... we now have operating here two of the world's four largest stock markets," he said. Joseph Hardiman, president of the US National Association of Securities Dealers, said he intended to encourage more European companies to list their shares on Nasdaq. "Nasdaq's electronic market has effectively been extended across the Atlantic Ocean," he told a news conference earlier.

### Frenchman on trial in Norway for family share deals

OSLO, April 20. (Reuters): A former top share dealer at Norway's biggest bank went on trial yesterday accused of illegally using bank funds to play world stock markets on behalf of members of his family. Frenchman Philippe Hecker, 37, denied charges on the first day of his trial that he seriously breached the economic trust of Den Norske Creditbank (DNC). The charge carries a maximum penalty of six years. Hecker is accused of speculating in the name of his mother and sister-in-law, making unauthorised transactions in their name with 1.25 billion crowns (\$200 million) of the bank's money. He also denied a charge that he exceeded his authorisation when buying shares worth 63 million crowns (\$10 million) in another Norwegian bank. "DNC estimates its loss on Hecker's transactions to be about 82 million crowns (\$13.3 million)," DNC spokesman Leif Nyboe told Reuters. DNC, which lost about 885 million crowns (\$145 million) on share trading last year, asked police to press criminal charges against Hecker after he was dismissed from his job last November. Hecker, who has lost 20 kilos (44 lb) since his imprisonment last November, gave his occupation as actor when he appeared in court for the trial, which is expected to last two weeks.

### Mining firm urges new constitution

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, April 20. (AP): De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd., in statements critical of government racial policies, called today for a new equal-opportunity constitution for South Africa. The company, which controls the supply and marketing of 80 per cent of the world's diamonds, said apartheid laws and educational inequalities hamper its efforts to treat employees equally. De Beers chairman Ogilvie Thompson urged in his annual statement the negotiation of a constitution to "provide equal opportunity and political participation for all, protected by an entrenched bill of rights." "De Beers strongly supports rapid reform toward equal opportunity and dignity for all South Africans, based on full participation in the political process. Regrettably, I cannot report any notable progress in this direction in the year under review." In their annual report, De Beers directors said the company was impeded in treating employees of all races equally by the group areas act. The act bars racial mixing of residential areas. De Beers is helping some black miners to own their homes, instead of living in all-black hotels. De Beers said it is providing special training for blacks because "blacks competing on the job market in South Africa do so from a disadvantaged educational base."

### ATT chief James Olson dies

NEW YORK, April 20. (Reuters): James Olson, who rose from manhole digger to chairman of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, died at his home yesterday at the age of 62, the company announced.

The cause of death was not immediately announced but Olson had a tumour removed from his colon on March 23 and laboratory tests determined it was malignant.

Spokesman William Mullane told Reuters last week that president Robert Allen had been running ATT, the eighth largest US company by sales.

ATT said Allen would continue to run the company until a new chairman was elected.

### Competition

ATT has continued to dominate the long-distance telephone industry despite competition from companies that charge less for their service. ATT also sells computers and phone systems to businesses.

Olson had been with the company for 43 years, starting as a manhole digger in North Dakota working part-time. He often said, "I didn't start at the bottom. I started below ground."

Olson joined the company as a full-time employee after graduating from college. He was elected president in 1983 and chairman in 1986, succeeding Charles Brown, who guided the telecommunications giant through the breakup of the Bell System in 1984.

Olson was credited with revitalising ATT after a period of stagnation. He oversaw a major restructuring of the company including \$1 billion cost-cutting programme that called for the elimination of 32,000 jobs. ATT earned \$2.04 billion last year, a post-divestiture record.

Under Olson's leadership, ATT made international expansion a key part of its strategy to keep profits rising.

### Non-oil trade rises sharply

ABU DHABI, April 20. (Opecna): Abu Dhabi's non-oil trade rose sharply last month, compared with the same period last year, according to figures published here today.

Khalifa Al Muheiry, under-secretary for customers at the Finance Department, said the figures showed that the value of total non-oil trade had risen by about 38 per cent to more than \$220 million last month from 160 million in March last year.

The value of imports rose from over \$12 million to 158 million during the period, an increase of 41 per cent.

The figures represented a rise in the emirate's non-oil trade for the third successive month.

## US banks' profits surge

NEW YORK, April 20. (AP): Several of the nation's largest banking companies — Citicorp, Bankers Trust New York Corp., Wells Fargo and Co., Bank of Boston Corp. and Mellon Bank Corp. — yesterday reported an increase in their first quarter profits.

Analysts said the results, with the exception of Bankers Trust, were better than expected, and showed the banks were off to a positive start after suffering losses or reduced earnings in 1987 due to the Third World debt problem.

### Income

Citicorp, the nation's biggest bank holding company and the first last year to significantly increase reserves against possible losses on loans, said its after-tax profit for the third month ended on March 31 rose to \$358 million. That was up 34 per cent from restated earnings of \$267 million in 1987.

### Corporate profits up

## Japanese economy is roaring, says economist

TOKYO, April 20. (AP): Japan's economy has taken off on one of the biggest booms in the past five years, surprising many economists who only last year were predicting a recession.

Economists say the boom will continue on for at least two more years, adding that the government's predictions for a 3.75 per cent growth in gross national product annually for the next five years is probably too conservative.

During the past 11 months, manufacturing output shot up 14 per cent, a figure that took twice as long to achieve during the boom years of the 1970s, according to economists.

Forecasts for this year, prepared by the Merrill Lynch Investment Firm, say that if the economy continues at its present pace:

- The gross national product will grow at 5 per cent;
- corporate profits will grow by about 18 per cent;
- retail sales will grow at an annual rate of 13.8 per cent.

"The speed of Japan's recovery has surprised most commentators. This is really a remarkable pace," said Rich Jerran, an economist for the Kleinwort Benson investment

firm. "The domestic economy is roaring."

The finance ministry says corporate profits were up 38.1 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year, overall profits for 1987 were up 27.2 per cent over the previous year. And, according to the prime minister's office, household savings were up 11.8 per cent for the past year. Inflation-adjusted consumer spending rose a near-record 5.8 per cent in February alone, second only to a 5.9 per cent rise recorded in November 1975.

William P. Sterling, senior economist for Merrill Lynch in Tokyo, said Japan had enough growth in 1987 to keep the economic boom rolling for the rest of this year.

"This should be good news to the United States and other countries that trade with Japan," Sterling said. "This makes Japan the market of choice for any country with goods to sell."

Sterling said declines in exports because of the rising yen had a cooling effect in 1986, but that only 17 per cent of Japan's GNP was affected.

"The other 83 per cent is not exports, and that did very well," he said.

Sterling said the current boom

is the best in the past four or five years, although the officially projected GNP growth rate of 3.75 per cent is low compared to the 8 to 10 per cent a year Japan achieved during the 1960s and part of the 1970s.

"This growth cycle could be a strong and a long one," he said.

Just last May, economists were saying Japan was headed for an economic downturn, with the yen rising rapidly and driving up prices for its export-driven economy.

Industrial production fell to its lowest in years, and the unemployment rate rose to a record 3.2 per cent. Japan's unemployment rate is artificially low, because of the armed forces and people who work more than one hour during the last week of the month are counted as employed.

"I think the turning point came in 1986, when the yen was strong against the dollar," Jerran said.

"There was a lot of pressure to stop the yen from going up. Japan achieved this by cutting interest rates, fuelling a domestic housing boom that contributed about one-third of the GNP growth."

Jerran said the government also injected 6 trillion yen (\$48

### Operations of foreign banks in India

## Government to strengthen capital base

WITH a share of 0.2 per cent in the branch network, 3.6 per cent in the working funds, foreign banks account for whopping 27 per cent of the total published profits of Indian commercial banks. While Indian banks are roughing it out in turbulent waters of social banking, the Indian branches of foreign banks are sailing in placid climes of high profit elite banking, according to Financial Express.

The profitability of Indian banks has been ebbing since the last two decades. At the same time there has been a meteoric rise in the profitability of Indian branches of foreign banks. In their own countries and elsewhere, most of these banks have suffered heavy loan losses.

### Network

The profits of Indian branches have in fact zoomed during 1986 for which the published results are available. For instance, the profit of Standard Chartered Bank jumped from Rs 1.90 crores in 1985 to almost Rs 9 crores in 1986. Similarly, profits of BCCI have soared from Rs 2 crores in 1985 to Rs 8.80 crores in 1986.

At present, 20 foreign banks are operating through a network of 135 branches in 17 cities of India. Besides there are around 16 representative offices. In terms of deposits, these account for a meagre six per cent. But when it comes to profit, they constitute more than 50 per cent of

the aggregate published profit of nationalised banks. During 1986, foreign banks earned a published aggregate profit of Rs 70 crores (Rs 36 crores in 1985) while the figure for nationalised banks was only Rs 150 crores (approximately). This speaks for the contrasting priorities of foreign and Indian banks.

Though profits published or otherwise, are no adequate measure of the performance of the banks, Indian banks should consider responsibilities much beyond the immediate operational horizons. They are involved in the vigorous implementation of non-visible social objectives, spread of banking to rural areas, poverty alleviation programmes and the like.

The social orientation and lendings have been in fact, an enigma with Indian banks.

### Objectives

The rapid acceleration of rural branch network has been an obsession with Indian banks for almost two decades. These achievements cannot be overlooked and have few parallels elsewhere in the world. They are the very basic objectives of nationalisation.

At the same time, these do not place a taboo on the pursuit of profitable activities. But Indian banks abandon, as they have done, these profitable avenues to the exclusive domain of Indian branches of foreign banks. To tide over, Indian banks have to

make a major thrust in non-traditional areas like non-resource banking.

The government plans to strengthen the capital base of the nationalised banks by about Rs 2,000 crores during the Seventh Plan period. It is believed that one of the main objectives of this is to shore up meagre capital/asset ratio and lend credence and strength to Indian banks in their efforts to tap the more profitable international operations. But, it seems as though Indian banks have handed over profitable avenues to foreign banks.

Indian banks are expected to cross-subsidise their operations through differential interest rate structure. They can do this by securing a major share of business in the corporate and non-fund segments.

Pitted against this meagre profitability of Indian banks, huge profits earned by foreign banks should be taken as curtain raiser. Unfortunately, the mandarins of the banking industry appear to maintain an ostrich-like stance. Annual reports of Indian banks speak glowingly of their high social lendings, increase in the size of deposits, branch network, etc. Unlike the proverbial miniskirt, these reports conceal more than what they reveal, only fueling speculation.

An objective assessment besides putting the supervisory

regulators on the alert, can trigger a healthy internal and external debate.

A comparative analysis of Indian and foreign banks' operational results shows that while the average ratio of net profit to working funds is only 0.17 per cent in the case of nationalised banks, it is as high as 1.4 per cent in respect of Indian branches of foreign banks.

(To be continued)

### Kuwait's economic policy praised

LONDON, April 20. (Kuna): A leading specialised publication here has praised Kuwait's "mature" political and economic policies.

In an eight-page supplement, the Middle East Economic Digest (Meed) published on Monday, said "Kuwait's standing as one of the world's most mature, pragmatic, stable and prosperous small nations remains intact despite the challenges of the past 12 months."

Analysing Kuwait's economy, Meed quoted one "Western diplomat" as saying that the Gulf state was "still a good country in which to do business."

It gave an overall optimistic view of the banking and oil sectors, although noted a decline of the construction industry.

Meed pointed out that planning, rather than construction, would become "one of Kuwait Municipality's chief concerns in the future."

### Desire

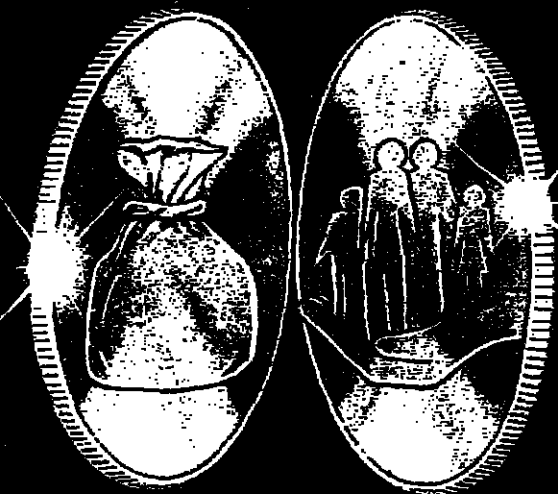
At the same time the growing desire to preserve Kuwait's heritage was reflected in a study being prepared for the Sharq Al-Sief area where some of the last remaining example of early architecture have survived, the publication added.

It also referred to various ambitious projects being built, including the Olympic Sports Complex, the postal service complex, and the Kuwait Waterfront Development.

On housing, the weekly lauded Kuwait's policy of providing every Kuwaiti with a private home.

By the end of the present plan the NHA should have provided 25,000 more homes and a further 25,000 would be provided under the new five year plan, it noted.

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## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 21-22, 1988

LONDON  
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST
ABBIE LFE	277/0
ADT LTD	111.0
ALD LYONS	410/0
AMSTRAD	160.0
ARGYLL GP	205.0
ASDA GP	174/0
BAA PP	112.0
BTR	243/0
BAT INDS	419.0
BARCLAYS	432/0
BASS	836.0
BEAZER	182.0
BEECHAMS	461/0
BET ORD	226.0
BICC PLC	330/0
BLUE ARMY	118/0
BLUE CIRC	434/0
BOD GP	381.0
BOOTS CO	224.0
BPS INDS	78.0
BR COMM	282/0
BR AIRWAY	65.00
BR AEROSP	397/0
BR GAS RG	180/0
B.P.	275.0
B.P. NEW	78.0
BRITNOL	248/0
BRITROL	516.0
BUNZL	138/0
BURMAN OL	560.0
BURTON	246/0
CABLEGATE	320/6
CADBURYS	288.0
COATS VYI	245/0
COMM UNI	330/0
COMS GOLD	905/0
CROOKS	553.0
COURTAULD	354/0
DALGETY	284/0
DEE CP	184.0
DIXONS	181.0
ENIC CHINA	400/0
ENTER OIL	344.5
FERRANTI	79.57
FISONS	47.50
GEN ACCID	915.0
GEN ELEC	151/0
GLAXO	966.0
GRANADA	334.0
GLOBE	137/0
GRAND MET	474.0
GUS A	075.0
GUARD RYL	896/0
GKN	296.7
GUINNESS	297.0
HAMMERS A	577.0
HANSON	127.5
HAKER SID	465.0
HILLSDOWN	283/0
ICI	978/0
INI	194/0

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLICE	704/0	702/0
600 GROUP	106/0	106/0
A.B. ELECT	445/0	445/0
AAR HLD	273/0	273/0
ARLSON	128/0	128/0
ACRE OIL	192.0	190.0
ADDISON	95/0	96/0
ADVEST	310/0	311/0
ALEX WIKK	156/0	157/0
ALLD COLL	124/0	123/0
ALLD IR B	218/0	215/0
ALLD PLANT	52/0	52/0
ALLANCE	783/0	780/0
AMARI	177/0	177/0
AMEC	396/0	396/0
AMER TRST	116/0	115/0
AMERSHAM	449/0	448/0
AMT HLTHC	272/0	271/0
ANGLO O'S	201/0	200/0
APRICOT	100/0	100/0
APV PLC	110/0	111/0
ATWOODS	282/0	283/0
AUS REE A	235/0	234/0
AUS REE B	354/0	360/0
AVON RUBB	680/0	680/0
B. WENILL	163/0	163/0
BAILL JAP	308/0	308/0
BANKER IT	67/0	67/0
BARKER DO	149/0	148/0
BARKT DEV	189/0	190/0
BAYNES C	33/0	33/0
BEJAM SP	169/0	168/0
BELHAVEN	46/0	47/0
BELMAY	242/0	243/0
BENLON HD	57/0	58/0
BENTALLS	190/0	190/0
BERISTORD	289/0	287/0
BERKELEY	368/0	367/0
BH GROUP	110/0	110/0
BIRMD OL	381/0	381/0
BLK LE 2	18/0	18/0
BLOCK 2	18/0	18/0
BLOCK 3	35/0	34/0
BOASE MAS	254/0	254/0
BOOKING	129/0	128/0
BOOKER	401/0	401/0
BOOTHENR	340/0	338/0
BORTHWICK	45/0	45/0
BOUATRE	384/0	385/0
BOUTHORPE	175/0	175/0
BR ASSETS	65/4	65/0
BR DREGI	122/0	122/0
BR LAND	308/0	307/0

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1419.4	1429.7	1419.6	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	1019.9	1019.9	1013.3	957.6
FT ALL SHR	919.91	925.79	919.91	870.22
FT GOV SEC	91.31	91.31	91.26	88.49
FT GOLD MC	218.1	218.1	221.4	302.1
FT MINES F	448.91	448.91	445.62	430.65
FT OIL	1874.4	1874.4	1870.2	1768.7
FT MLD DLR	129.08	129.44	129.92	115.04
FT MLD STG	101.07	100.74	101.94	101.83
FT MLD LOC	112.36	112.52	113.00	99.08

## London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS AT DAY'S LOWS IN LATE TRADING

LONDON, APRIL 20, REUTER - SHARE PRICES EASED TO THE DAY'S LOWS ON LOW VOLUME IN LATE TRADING AFTER A MODEST MARK-DOWN ON WALL STREET.

DEALERS SAID RELIEF THAT MARCH'S U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) SHOWED A 0.5 PCT RISE, ROUGHLY IN LINE WITH FORECASTS, LEFT THE MARKET IN "NO-MAN'S LAND". EARLIER, STOCKS HAD BEEN DEPRESSED BY RUMOURS THE CPI WOULD SHOW A RISE OF NEAR 0.9 PCT, FOSTERING FEARS OF A POSSIBLE 50-POINT OPENING FALL ON WALL STREET.

AT 1451 GMT, THE FTSE 100 SHARE INDEX WAS 14 POINTS DOWN AT 1,784.9 ON A 1400 GMT TURNOVER OF 318.5 MLN SHARES.

DOMESTICALLY, HOPES OF AN IMMINENT CUT IN THE U.K. BASE RATE WERE SIDELINED, AHEAD OF THE RELEASE TOMORROW OF U.K. MARCH BANK LENDING AND MONEY SUPPLY FIGURES. THE MARKET WAS ALSO WAITING FOR THE NEXT SET OF U.K. TRADE FIGURES DUE OUT ON APRIL 29.

DEALERS SAID THERE WAS GROWING CONCERN THAT U.K. TRADE DATA FOR MARCH WILL TEND TO CONFIRM THE WORSENING PATTERN OF DEFICITS SEEN IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS. THIS WOULD EFFECTIVELY CANCEL STERLING'S RECENT STRONG PERFORMANCE AND WIPE OUT PROSPECTS OF A CUT IN THE U.K.'S EIGHT PCT BASE RATE.

## London Gold

LONDON, APRIL 20, REUTER - GOLD BULLION CONTINUED TO SETTLE BACK TOWARDS THE CLOSE, TRACKING COMEX, AND THE MARKET CLOSED SLIGHTLY EASIER AND JUST ABOVE THE DAY'S LOWS.

GOLD CLOSED AT 456.00/456.50 DLR AN OUNCE, DOWN FROM OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSING LEVELS OF 457.10/457.60 AND 456.75/457.25 DLR RESPECTIVELY.

DEALERS SAID THE MARKET GENERALLY FAILED TO RESPOND TO POTENTIAL CONSTRUCTIVE FACTORS THIS AFTERNOON, AND EASED AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF PRODUCER SELLING INTEREST JUST ABOVE THE MARKET. CONSEQUENTLY, FROM THE EARLY AFTERNOON ONWARDS, GOLD SLIPPED BACK FROM A HIGH JUST BELOW 460 DLR, THEY NOTED.

## London Money Market

LONDON, APRIL 20, REUTER - MONEY MARKET RATES WERE QUIETLY FIRMER IN LATE TRADING BUT HAD NOT RISEN ABOVE THEIR MIDMORNING LEVELS, DEALERS SAID.

ATTENTION WAS FOCUSED ON HOW TOMORROW'S U.K. MONEY SUPPLY AND BANK LENDING DATA FOR MARCH WOULD AFFECT STERLING. THE POUND WAS QUIET TODAY, MOSTLY TRADING JUST BELOW 3.15 MARKS.

TODAY'S FIRMNESS IN RATES WAS ATTRIBUTED MAINLY TO PROFIT-TAKING AND TIGHT CONDITIONS AT THE SHORT END OF THE MARKET. THERE WAS SOME NERVOUSNESS ABOUT THE MONEY DATA BUT MOST DEALERS ARE STILL EXPECTING RATES TO DECLINE.

## Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
DLR	1.8945/55	1.6610/15	5.4620/30	NOON
STG	1.6586/6666	3.142/156	10.6940/7055	FIX
DMK	5.6405/6525	10.6920/7100	339.3/340.05	FIX
SFR	1.3740/3750	2.6028/6056	82.64/73	1300
FFR	1.8640	3.5340	112.165	33.02
ECU	1.24987	0.659217	2.07604	7.05492
SDR	1.38689	0.72835	2.30612	7.83940
YEN	123.93/05	234.75/235.10		NOON
SDR RATES	19/04/1988	OTHERS	20/04/1988	

BR VITA	426/0	425/0	HEYWOOD W	308/0	306/0	RUBEROID	145/0	145/0
BRAHMER	236/0	236/0	HIGGS IN	174/0	175/0	RUGBY GRP	265/0	266/0
BRENT CHE	147/0	146/0	HIGGS HIL	341/0	340/0	SAGA HOL	179/0	178/0
BRENT WCR	355/0	355/0	HODSON GP	371/0	370/0	SALVESEN	158/0	158/0
BRIDON	150/0	150/0	HOTR SPHR	182/0	181/0	SAVILLE G	40/0	40/0
BRITANNIC	018/0	030/0	HOGG TST	230/0	230/0	SAVOY "A"	903/0	900/0
BRITTON E	276/0	276/0	HOLLIS	106/0	106/0	SCHR. GLOB	205/0	205/0
BRUNNER	106/0	106/0	HOPKINSON	116/0	116/0	SCOT HERI	188/0	187/0
BSG INTL	66/0	66/0	HOPKINSON	240/0	240/0	SCOT I.T.	123/0	123/0
BULMER HP	177/0	177/0	HRSR GNNS	139/0	139/0	SCOT NET	133/0	133/0
BURGESS	230/0	228/0	HTV GROUP	219/0	220/0	SCOT MORT	100/0	100/0
CALEDONIA	344/0	345/0	IBSTOCK J	189/0	190/0	SCOT TV	378/0	373/0
CALOR GRP	377/0	375/0	ICE.FZ.FD	336/0	336/0	SCT NAT C	31/0	31/0
CAMB ELEC	241/0	241/0	INDPMT	45/0	45/0	SCT NAT I	92/0	92/0
CAMB INST	43/0	43/0	INDPMT W	6/4	6/4	SCT NAT W	8/0	8/0
CANNING W	177/0	177/0	INDT.BU.CH	122/0	123/0	SECS TST	101/0	100/0
CANNON ST	278/0	279/0	INT.CITY	159/0	159/0	SENIOR EN	52/0	52/0
CAP GRP	301/0	300/0	INV.CAP	325/0	326/0	SIEBE	347/0	346/0
CAP.RADIO	188/0	188/0	INVERGORD	210/0	210/0	SIMON ENG	263/0	263/0
CARADON	310/0	310/0	JNSH.MATH	275/0	275/0	SINGER&FR	71/0	71/0
CARLENG EN	173/0	175/0	KALON GP	32/4	32/4	SLOUGH ES	279/0	278/0
CARLESS C	111/0	111/0	KENDY BRK	411/0	412/0	SMITH D	355/0	355/0
CARLTON C	745/0	743/0	KETSON	71/0	71/0	SMITH W-B	57/4	57/0
CASE GRP	84/0	83/0	KLURT BEN	382/0	382/0	SMITHS IN	251/0	250/0
CATER ALL	378/0	380/0	KLURT O'S	124/0	124/0	SMURFIT J	375/0	372/0
CENTL TV	505/0	503/0	KXIV SAVE	345/0	346/0	SOV.OGAS	116/0	116/0
CHARTERHA	26/0	26/0	KXIV-FIT	195/0	195/0	SPONG RLM	16/6	16/4
CHAS CHUR	122/0	121/0	LAING "A"	320/0	320/0	SPRING RAD	184/0	185/0
CHATER CN	334/0	333/0	LAING ORD	320/0	320/0	SPRX-SARC	185/0	185/0
CHLORIDE	53/0	53/0	LAING PRP	401/0	400/0	STAKTS	107/4	109/0
CHRISTIES	545/0	545/0	LAIRD GP	237/0	236/0	STANLEY A	296/0	293/0
CI GROUP	42/0	43/0	LAIONT HL	273/0	274/0	STORNGUAR	12/0	12/0
CNDYDE PET	145/0	144/0	LAIONLEISU	317/0	318/0	STVLY IND	156/0	156/0
CNTRL SEC	52/0	52/0	LASMO OPS	173/0	175/0	SYST DSGN	62/0	74/0
COALITE	313/0	313/0	LAURENCE W	152/0	152/0	T.TEES TV	555/0	558/0
COATES BR	319/0	315/0	LBN & MAN	264/0	282/0	TELEMETRX	25/4	27/0
COLLINS A	470/0	470/0	LBN & MET	200/0	200/0	TELEMETRS	213/0	213/0
COLLINS W	567/0	568/0	LBN SHOP	243/0	242/0	TEMPLE BA	209/0	208/0
COLSON	183/0	183/0	LBN UTD	205/0	205/0	TI GROUP	324/0	323/0
COSTAIN	316/0	316/0	LEIGH INT	220/0	220/0	TIE RACK	133/0	135/0
COURTS A	178/0	180/0	LEX SERVC	363/0	363/0	TIME PROO	181/0	181/0
COURTS F	258/0	258/0	LILLEY FJ	39/4	39/0	TOMKINS F	249/0	248/0
COVIE (TC)	120/0	120/0	LIT	31/0	31/0	TOOTAL GP	101/4	101/0
CROOKS	228/0	228/0	LOGICA	287/0	285/0	TR CITY	69/4	70/0
CROWN INT	187/0	187/0	LOVELL HD	253/0	253/0	TR INDUST	114/0	114/0
CROUCHER	187/0	185/0	LOW (HM)	561/0	562/0	TR PACIFIC	46/0	46/0
CRSANT	150/0	150/0	LOW MARD	406/0	407/0	TR PROPTY	97/0	97/0
CRYSTALAT	170/0	170/0	LOW-BONER	225/0	224/0	TR TRSTEE	117/0	117/0
DARES EST	28/4	29/0	LWT GRD	140/0	142/0	TRAVIS&AR	351/0	352/0
DAWSON IN	206/0	206/0	M&H REP	384/0	382/0	TRIMCOO	37/0	38/0
DE LA RUE	396/0	393/0	M.T.N.M.PLC	141/0	141/0	TRIPLEX	195/0	192/0
DELTA GRP	307/0	307/0	MACRO 4	269/0	266/0	TRIMWOOD G	30/4	31/0
DIPLOMA	220/0	221/0	MAI	97/0	98/0	TRIMWOOD W	15/0	15/0
DRAYTON C	430/0	428/0	MANDERS	379/0	378/0	TRSPRT.DV	215/0	219/0
DRAYTON J	960/0	960/0	MANSFIELD	415/0	410/0	TRUST	318/0	318/0
DRG	377/0	378/0	MARCARTHY	270/0	270/0	TV SOUTH	303/0	303/0
DUNHILL	197/0	192/0	MARLEY	151/0	151/0	TV SH HLD	66/0	65/0
EAGLE RST	17	17	MARSTON T	117/0	117/0	TYLR WORO	445/0	445/0
EAGLE STG	17/4	17/4	MATTHEWS	92/0	91/0	TYNDALL	153/0	153/0
EDIN I.T.	149/4	150/0	MCAHPINE	430/0	428/0	U-APP HOL	282/0	283/0
ELECTRA	199/0	198/0	MCCARTHY	495/0	494/0	U-BORLAND	109/0	109/0
ELECTROCH	210/0	210/0	MCCHEENIE	320/0	320/0	U-BRD ST	39/0	39/0
ELLIS EVA	178/0	178/0	MCCOY	234/0	234/0	U-CIFER	13/4	13/4
ELLIS GOL	61/0	61/0	MENZIES J	378/0	377/0	U-CLUFF	93/0	93/0
ENAP	192/0	191/0	MERCH.TST	139/0	139/0	U-CRU COM	75/0	75/0
EMPIRE ST	210/0	210/0	METALRAY	82/0	83/0	U-DEMEY V	118/0	120/0
ERSKINE H	220/0	221/0	MEYER INT	380/0	380/0	U-EDGORE	353/0	350/0
EURO V RG	22/4	22/0	NIDSWANER	353/0	354/0	U-EXPLARS	38/0	38/0
EUROTHRM	339/0	340/0	NIMMET HD	475/0	475/0	U-FIELDS	93/0	93/0
EUROTHN RG	325/0	326/0	NMT CLKT	124/0	125/0	U-FLOYD C	30/0	30/0
EVERED HL	115/4	116/0	NOMKS IT	204/0	203/0	U-HANTHRN	34/4	35/0
EVODE GRP	156/0	157/0	MORGAN CR	260/0	260/0	U-HGHS HT	76/0	78/0
F & C PAC	128/0	128/0	MORGAN GF	262/0	262/0	U-HUGHES	108/0	108/0
FARNELL E	179/0	180/0	MORLAND	498/0	495/0	U-KUNICK	40/0	40/0
FED. HOURS	293/0	293/0	MOUNTLETS	163/0	163/0	U-LDN FRF	161/0	161/0
FENNER JR	166/0	166/0	MUNLEN J	413/0	413/0	U-MICROVR	41/0	40/0
FERGUSON	273/0	273/0	MURRSH SAK	245/0	245/0	U-MOLINAR	33/0	33/0
FINE ARTS	208/0	208/0	MURRY INTL	165/0	165/0	U-MRRTS V	8/0	8/0
FINLAN GP	75/0	75/0	MUCKLOW	158/0	158/0	U-MRWDYD	375/0	380/0
FINLAY J	83/0	83/0	N.AMER.TS	349/0	348/0	U-PROP TST	2/4	2/6
FITCH LOW	258/0	258/0	N.ENG.IND	92/0	92/0	U-RDINSUT	149/0	148/0
FJK BABCK	127/0	127/0	NEWARTHILL	360/0	360/0	U-ROLFEAR	174/0	173/0
FLUNG ARM	111/0	110/0	NEWS INTL	269/0	270/0	U-SELECTY	19/0	19/0
FLUNG CLAV	240/0	241/0	NMAN TMS	57/0	57/0	U-STH BUS	304/0	305/0
FLUNG F.EA	177/0	178/0	NMAN TONK	174/0	173/0	U-STHOPH	218/0	217/0
FLUNG JAPM	212/0	215/0	NORCROS	415/0	415/0	U-TSB C I	140/0	140/0
FLUNG MERC	173/0	173/0	NORFOLK C	28/0	28/0	U-TUBULAR	22/0	22/0
FLUNG OSEA	148/0	149/0	NORMANS	53/4	53/0	U-WAYNE K	69/0	69/0
FLUNG TECH	157/0	158/0	NORTH OPX	130/0	130/0	U-WMS LEI	45/4	43/0
FLUNG UNIV	138/0	138/0	NURPH-NOCP	140/0	139/0	U-WYKO GP	73/0	73/0
FOSECO NI	251/0	251/0	OCEAN TPT	266/0	265/0	U.E.I.	340/0	340/0
FR GROUP	274/0	276/0	OCEANICS	20/0	21/0	UK PAPER	141/0	140/0
FRESHBAKE	100/0	98/0	OSSORY EST	23/4	23/4	ULSTER TV	73/0	74/0
FST LEISR	147/0	148/0	OWNERS AB	87/0	87/0	UNDERWOOD	144/0	144/0
FST NAT P	252/0	251/0	P & O VTS	64/0	65/0	UNION DIS	570/0	573/0
FST SCOT	380/0	381/0	PACIFIC A	117/0	118/0	UUD.INDUS	60/0	60/0
FUR & COL	140/0	103/0	PEACHEY P	440/0	440/0	VALUE&INC	54/0	55/0
GARDINER	47/4	48/0	PENLAND	110/0	111/0	VALUX GRP	556/0	557/0
GEEST	225/0	225/0	PHICOM	49/0	49/0	VERSON	17/0	17/0
GET INTL	114/0	115/0	PHOENIX	95/0	95/0	VG INSTNT	403/0	403/0
GESTETNER	180/0	180/0	PICKO&CK	201/0	201/0	VICKERS	166/0	165/0
GLYNED	479/0	478/0	POLLY PCK	286/0	282/0	VICKING RE	52/0	52/0
GPG	77/0	78/0	POMELL DU	351/0	351/0	VPI GRP	311/0	309/0
GRANPH ND	254/0	255/0	POMERSCRN	121/0	123/0	WABURG S	319/0	319/0
GREEN KMG	436/0	437/0	PREDY(A) A	232/0	233/0	WARD WHITE	312/0	313/0
GREENLW X	212/0	212/0	PREN COMS	68/4	69/0	WATERFO D	73/0	73/0
GREYCOAT	392/0	392/0	PROUDFOOT	279/0	280/0	WATERFO U	73/0	73/0
GRNP TV A	44/0	45/0	QUEENS NO	97/4	98/0	WATES CTY	185/0	184/0
GT.PT.LND	307/0	307/0	RADITHES	257/0	256/0	WATSON+P	189/0	189/0
GUS ORD	635/0	625/0	READOUT	70/0	70/0	WATTS B&B	270/0	270/0
GWT ATL A	118/0	118/0	REDFEARH	490/0	490/0	WCS GRP	233/0	234/0
GWT ORIE	268/0	271/0	REFUGO GP	420/0	443/0	WELLMAN	36/4	37/0
GWT STRA	226/0	226/0	REGALION	172/0	171/0	WEMBLEY	127/0	127/0
H.LND DIS	100/0	100/0	REISHAW	162/0	160/0	WESTLAND	79/0	79/0
HALL (M)	164/0	165/0	RENOULD	56/4	57/0	WHENAY	31/2	31/4
KALMA	152/0	153/0	RENTOKIL	183/0	183/0	WIDNEY	30/0	31/0
KAMBROS I	201/4	202/0	RIP GROUP	184/0	183/0	WITAM INV	107/0	106/0
KAMMERSON	605/0	603/0	ROBINSON	465/0	464/0	WJLER GRN	116/0	116/0
KARRISON C	591/0	590/0	ROCKWARE	64/0	64/0	WMSN BOV	205/0	204/0
KEATH(CE)	372/0	373/0	ROMNEY	314/0	313/0	WOLSON CON	390/0	390/0
KELENE LN	35/0	36/0	ROTORSCHLD	170/0	170/0	WOLSELEY	284/0	285/0
KENDEN-ST	157/0	137/0	ROTORIC	147/0	147/0	WOLVEDRO	387/0	387/0
						WPP GRP	521/0	520/0



## International Bond Highlights

## Interest Rates

**FOLLOWING** are the average  
KD interest rates of local inter

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PO	462	452-50	46
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## NOTES

## TURKU

ITIES AT JARDINE FLEMING. "INVESTORS  
LOOKING TO COME INTO THE MARKET AT ANY

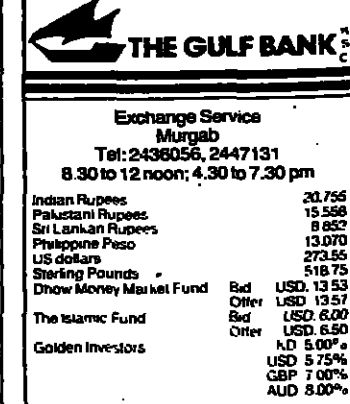
IMBED 207.09 POINTS, OR 0.78 PCT, TO  
E POINTS ON TUESDAY. RISES LED FALLS

## Currency rates

S	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRAI
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

BANK	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRAD
NATIONAL BANK	0.860					
-GULF BANK	0.325	0.330	0.330	0.330	320000	
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.240	0.242	0.242	0.242	200000	
-AHLI BANK	0.270	0.275	0.275	0.275	20000	
-B.K.M.E	0.295	0.300	0.300	0.300	170000	
-K.R.E.E.B.	0.370	0.370	0.370	0.370	20000	
-BURGAN BANK	0.236	0.236	0.238	0.236	60000	
-K.F.HOUSE	0.405	0.410	0.410	0.410	10000	
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KWT INV. CO.	0.168					
-K.F.T.I.C.	0.210					
-K.I.T.C.	0.152					
-COM.FACILITIES	0.380					
-AHLIAH INV.	0.000					
-I.F.A.	0.100	0.102	0.102	0.100	180000	
-INV. PEARL KWT	0.104					
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KWT INSURANCE	0.690					
-GULF INSURANCE	0.370					
-AHLIA INS. CO.	0.510					
-MARBA INS. CO.	0.415					
REAL EST SECTOR						
-KWT R.E.ST. CO.	0.240					
-UNI R.E.ST. CO.	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118	580000	
-NAT R.E.ST. CO.	0.224					
-SALIHAN R.E.	0.075					
-KWT PROJECTS	0.086					
-KWT R.E.I.CO	0.000					
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-NAT IND. CO.	0.510					
-KWT M.P. IND.	0.295	0.270	0.270	0.270	258020	
-KWT CEMENT CO.	0.238					
-REF. IND. CO.	0.385					
-N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000					
-GULF CABLE	0.970					
-K.PH.IND. CO.	0.106					
-CONT.MARINE	0.350					
-K.SH.REP.CO	0.042					
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.081					
-K.N.C. CO.	0.190					
-KWT HOTELS CO.	0.174					
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.136					
-COM.MKT.CHMP.	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	320000	
-MOBILE TEL.	0.355	0.355	0.355	0.355	10000	
-KWT COMPUTER	0.190					
FOOD SECTOR						
-KWT F.F.	0.210					

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	27228	27360
Sterling	515556	519235
D.M.	133775	165093
S.	198019	199738
£. fr.	048169	048535
I. fir	0002200	0002226
Jap. yen	002192	002136
Bh. dinar	72222	726033
UAE dir	074121	074511
S. riyal	072549	072971
Q. riyal	074750	075228
Q. riyal	706845	711226



**LAGOS, April 20, (Opecna)**—The Nigerian government is "vigorously" pursuing a policy of promoting non-oil exports for which a comprehensive incentive scheme has been launched, according to Vice-Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, Chief of General Staff.

five-day seminar here, he said the incentive scheme provided for duty reductions, export credit insurance guarantee, accelerated depreciation, and streamlining and simplification of documentation processes.

Another measure involved the extension of the facility to rediscount short-term bills for all non-oil exports, the chief of staff added.

He said the seminar — "World Trade Africa Forum 88" — should provide an opportunity for direct dialogue and exchange of information of investment

potentials and opportunities besides a discussion of general and specific economic policies and programmes of the federal government.

### Need

Africa, stressed the need for a simplification of the transfer system for capital and dividends and the streamlining of procedure involving approval to invest in

While the measures taken so far by the government were "imaginative," there was also

need for a clear definition of Nigerian industrial policy and incentives for export-oriented industries, he said.

## Advertise

-UNTD POULTRY	0.238	-----	-----
-KWT FOODS	0.285	-----	-----

-AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
NON-KIT SECTOR						
-GWH INTER BK	0.066	0.067	0.067	0.067	480000	

-SHARJAH INS	0.000	-----	-----
-GULF UNION INS	0.055	-----	-----

-SHARJAH INS	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	--
-GULF UNION INS	0.055	-----	-----	-----	-----	--
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						

**SECRET**

NESTLE 1	8475	8525
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EG LAUFEN	0	1875	
ELEKTROMAT	3025	3060	SANDO
ENG CHEM I	3430	3475	SANDO

ELEKTROMAT	3025	3060	SANDOZ I	11650	11700
FMS CHEM I	3430	3475	SANDOZ N	4900	4910

JELM I	2510	2450	W THU
JELM PS	357	356	W THU

JELM I	2510	2450	W THUR N	2000	2000
JELM PS	357	356	W THUR PS	650	660
LANDIS N	1100	1100	ZURICH I	5600	5725

## Franchising

## Economist calls for more

## Economist calls for more "fiscal responsibility" in Europe

## Economist calls for more "fiscal responsibility" in Europe

**MOSCOW, April 20, (Reuter):** An economist has called for the Soviet Baltic Republic of Estonia to become more independent of Moscow in conducting its economy.

of the daily *Sovietskaya Estonian*, which reached Moscow yesterday. Edgar Savisaar said the republic suffered from too much central planning and should decide for itself what to buy and sell on purely economic terms.

Urging the extension of a system of self-accounting in industry to the whole of Estonia, he said the republic should be "fully responsible for the economic development of the region."

Savisaar is a senior light industry official who until recently worked on forward planning for the republic's state planning committee Gosplan.

"Under the control of the republic should go the whole economic potential of Estonia including enterprises currently subordinated to all-union ministries," he said.

Until recently, it would have been unthinkable for such a suggestion, made before only by dissidents, to appear in an official publication.

But earlier this month the

leaders of Estonia's official cul-

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## Gold prices rise

## Dollar is incredibly stable, says trader

LONDON, April 20. (AP): The dollar was nearly motionless in dull European trading late this morning.

Gold prices rose. Dealers said they didn't expect much movement during the rest of the session unless the report on the US consumer price index (CPI), to be released later today, contains surprises.

"The dollar is incredibly stable," one Milan trader said. "The market is bearish, there's no doubt about that, but the possibility of central bank intervention and the Gulf situation is supporting it," he said.

## Higher

He predicted that "sooner or later the market will push the dollar lower," but that in the short run the dollar was likely to remain stuck in a very tight range.

If the price index report for March shows that US inflation is picking up, US interest rates likely will rise and dollar could move higher, traders said.

If the index rises the expected 0.4 per cent or less, the dollar is likely to resume its decline, traders said.

In Tokyo, the US dollar

remained little changed against the Japanese yen in morning trading, while stock prices posted a healthy gain.

On the Tokyo Stock Exchange, the Nikkei stock average of 225 selected issues, which shed a modest 14.45 points yesterday, gained 162.69 points, or 0.6 per cent, to end the morning session at 26,819.69.

"Domestically, there is nothing to cause uneasiness among investors, such as the possibility of restriction of margin transactions," said Hiromi Yoneyama of Wako Securities.

Although share prices finished lower on Wall Street overnight, the stable US currency boosted the Tokyo market, he added.

## Active

Trading was moderately active and was led by large-capital issues. Volume in the first section stood at 480 million shares, against 600 million shares traded during all of yesterday.

Traders said selling pressure pushed the dollar below the 124.00 yen level at one point during the trading, but was later supported by modest intervention from the Bank of Japan.

The central bank does not

officially comment on its market activity.

Other dollar rates at mid-morning, compared with late yesterday:

— 1.6615 West German marks, down from 1.6625

— 1.3741 Swiss francs, down from 1.3752

— 5.6440 French francs, down from 5.6465

— 1.8636 Dutch guilders, down from 1.8642

— 1.23525 Italian lire, down from 1.23575

— 1.2297 Canadian dollars, down from 1.2337

In London, the British pound was quoted at \$1.8950, stronger than \$1.8930 yesterday.

Gold opened in London at a bid price of \$457.30 a troy ounce, compared with late yesterday's \$456.50. At mid-morning today, the city's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of \$458.00.

In Zurich, the bid price was \$457.80, up from \$457.00 late yesterday.

Earlier in Hong Kong, gold rose \$1.35 to close at a bid of \$458.94.

Silver was quoted in London today at a bid price of \$6.49 a troy ounce, up from yesterday's

\$6.46.

Asian and Pacific stock markets went their different ways today, focussing more on local factors than on fears about the dollar and Wall Street, which dipped slightly below the 2,000 point mark yesterday.

"The Tokyo market has come off quite a bit," said Stephen Codrington, head of equities at Jardine Fleming. "Investors with a lot of cash are looking to come into the market at any weakness."

Brokers said that while there was still a lack of market direction, three days worth of losses totalling 454.35 points enticed investors.

Sentiment in Tokyo remained positive, despite friction in the Gulf and a Wall Street preoccupied by the possibility of rising interest rates.

## Strong

"Tokyo is outperforming most other markets," said broker Yozo Asai of Yamaichi Securities. "Japanese economic fundamentals are continuing strong."

Hong Kong stocks were also looking stronger in afternoon trading on the back of market

rumours that Hong Kong tycoons were going to take a large stake in Hong Kong Land.

Australian shares slumped on news the nation's overall account in goods and services had risen to 1.18 billion Australian dollars in March from 802 million in February. The All Ordinaries index fell 22 points to close at 1,430.4.

A late round of selling pushed Hong Kong's Hang Seng index down by 15.49 points to 2,578 at closing.

Brokers said: "Cumulative buying on rumours of a possible takeover of Hong Kong Land, one of the British colony's biggest property owners, boosted prices in the morning."

Profit-taking emerged in the afternoon in the absence of any confirmation from the company.

London's FTSE index of 100 blue chip shares was up 0.7 at 1,799.6 points by 0945 GMT in hesitant trade. Shares were steady in early Frankfurt business while the French market slipped.

The price of North Sea crude oil eased. Oil from the Brent field for June delivery traded at \$16.91 a barrel, 60 cents below Monday's prices.

## Saudi riyal deposits show softer tone

BAHRAIN, April 20. (Reuters): Saudi riyal interbank deposits declined at the short end of the market while some fixed periods also displayed a softer tone amid ample liquidity ahead of the Gulf Friday weekend.

Dealers said activity was minimal, with arbitrage deals aimed at producing cheap dollars keeping the market alive. Some deals were also reported in one and two-month deposits.

Trade is normally thin during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims fast from dawn to dusk. The absence of any news over an anticipated Saudi government bond issue also helped dampen business interest, dealer said.

## Funds

Spot-next fund dropped several points to 4-1/8, 3-5/8 per cent while one-week declined 1/8 point to 6-3/8, six per cent.

One and three-months declined 1/8 point to 6-5/8, 1/2 per cent and 6-7/8, 3/4 per cent respectively. Six-months and one-year were steady at 7-1/4, 1/8 per cent and 7-5/8, 1/2 per cent.

The spot riyal eased to 3.7515/18 to the dollar from quotes of 3.7506/09 on Tuesday but this mainly reflected a split value due ahead of the weekend.

## KD deposit rates firm

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates firmed yesterday as the Central Bank sold Treasury bills on the secondary market for the third consecutive day.

Dealers said the stabilisation of the dollar on international exchange markets after several days of weakness also helped to firm rates.

Dollar sales, which boosted dinar liquidity, were a major factor in the slide of dinar deposit rates earlier this week.

The short rates, offered at less than one per cent on Tuesday with no bids, jumped yesterday by several points to five, four per cent for tomorrow-next and six, five per cent for spot-next.

One-week business started at 4-3/4 per cent and rose to five and 5-1/2 per cent before closing at six, five per cent.

## Jumped

Fixed-period deposits jumped by up to 3/4 point in active trading. One-month dealt at 5-1/2 per cent from 5-1/8 per cent business on Tuesday. Three, six and nine-month deposits traded at 5-3/4 per cent.

By early afternoon, dealers quoted six, 5-5/8 per cent for the one through three-month deposits and six, 5-3/4 per cent for the six and 12-month.

The Central Bank dinar

exchange rate was unchanged from Tuesday at 0.27291/01 to the dollar. Commercial banks quotes spot rates of around 0.27295/302.

## IDB approves \$105m financing

JEDDAH, April 20. (Reuters): The Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank has approved \$105 million worth of financing for development projects and foreign trade in member countries, the bank said in a statement.

Financing for the current Islamic year will include the purchase of \$11 million worth of crude oil and petroleum products for Turkey and Jordan, a \$9 million loan for a road construction project in Senegal and \$8 million for a petroleum storage project in Niger.

Other countries included in the finance package are Sudan, Gambia, South Yemen, Iraq and India.

## Exchange rate stability will help boost growth

## How strong sterling hits business

THE first rule of management is: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." This applies just as well to the management of the economy as to a company.

The relative stability of sterling against the mark until the beginning of March, moving in a narrow range — DM2.95-DM3.00 — for almost a year, was accompanied by low inflation; the highest rate of economic growth since 1973; rapid rises in manufacturing output, up by 5.5 per cent in 1987, and in manufacturing productivity, up by 7 per cent, according to the Times.

In the past month, this policy of sterling stability has been called into question. There is a strong perceived risk of inflation. Interest rates, which are set "so as to maintain downward pressure on inflation" were five percentage points higher than in West Germany and two percentage points more than in the United States.

## Strength

The resulting strength of the pound is not helping British businesses to sell their products and services in intensely competitive world markets. Sterling has appreciated by 4.5 per cent in as many weeks. If this strength in the pound is sustained, manufacturers face either reduced sales because their competitors' prices are cheaper, or reduced profits if they attempt to hold their own prices at a competitive level. For an exporter operating on a margin of 15 per cent, this means a

reduction in profits by almost one-third.

This is not to say we are complacent about inflation. The Confederation of British Industry has always shared the view of both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor that the defeat of inflation must be paramount in government economic policy.

## Increases

And we have continued to emphasise to member companies that wage increases must be paid for by improved productivity and performance.

But the fear of resurgent inflation must be set in context: the retail price index has been at 3.3 per cent for two months running — its lowest level for well over a year; the Chancellor himself, in his budget speech, forecast that inflation was unlikely to exceed 4 per cent this year; pay settlements in manufacturing are averaging about 5.5 per cent whereas productivity has increased over the past year by nearly 7 per cent.

True, earnings — after allowing for overtime and bonus payments — have increased by 8.5 per cent, but even this, when compared with the productivity, indicates only a small rise in factory gate prices.

Although the latest CBI Industrial Trends Survey shows that both orders and output are continuing at a very high level, fears that the economy might be overheating are unlikely to be realised.

The continued severity of competition in home and export markets is reflected in a weakening of expectations of price increases. Both output and stock levels are keeping up with demand as companies invest to ensure they have sufficient capacity to meet orders.

Keeping the pound stable against a low-inflation currency such as the mark is, in itself, an anti-inflationary discipline. It makes clear that increases in domestic costs relative to our competitors will not be accommodated by exchange rate depreciation.

## Stability

This policy also gave business what it needed — sterling stability at a reasonably competitive rate, particularly against other European currencies. The CBI's survey of the impact of monetary policy on business, published last year, showed that companies wanted stable exchange rates even at the expense of more frequent interest rate changes. This view also underlies the CBI's commitment to membership of the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System.

The breaching of the DM3 level has created uncertainty about whether this policy would continue. The experience of West Germany and Japan shows that a strong currency can be associated with a strong economy. But we cannot put the cart before the horse. The recovery of

British industry is not yet secure.

First, there is a considerable investment gap — in training, research and development and new plant and equipment — between Britain and her leading competitors. The scale of the extra investment needed to match West Germany, for example, is considerable — in the order of £10 a household week.

Indeed, unless British companies are able to close this gap our competitiveness will be impaired, which could bring about exactly the decline in sterling that the Chancellor's anti-inflationary strategy is designed to avoid.

But to invest, companies need both the incentive and the resources to do so. This will not be forthcoming unless the stability of the pound against our leading competitors is maintained.

Secondly, British companies need to develop their export strategy to meet the challenge of 1992 and the creation of the single European market. Penetrating new markets requires a significant investment of time and resources. Over the past few years British manufacturers have halted — and started to reverse — the decline in their share of world trade.

It will be a pity if the progress British industry has made over the past year to securing a long-term future in Europe is set back by the uncertainty created over the last month.

## Going bust in Texas real estate

AUSTIN, Texas, April 20. (UPI): Back in the heady days of the Texas real estate, developer and custom homebuilder John Lloyd drove a Mercedes, sported a \$10,000 Rolex, threw lavish parties and spent six-week vacations in Europe.

Today, Lloyd drives a jeep and wears a \$19.95 Timex watch while struggling to avoid the fate of such noted bankrupt Texans as former governor John Connally, heart surgeon Denton Cooley and oilman Eddie Chiles.

"If Willie Nelson files for chapter 11, I think a lot of people will go out and hang themselves," he joked during an interview.

## Steamship

Lloyd, 41, who says he made enough money during the early 1980s to retire "15 times over," is regularly advised by his lawyer to declare bankruptcy, but he resists, believing good times are just around the corner.

"It's kinda like playing mon-

opoly," he said. "I don't mind turning all my properties over and I don't even mind swapping them to the other guys playing, but I don't want to drop my little steamship in the box."

"If I can just sit there and get the chance to pass go now and then, I feel pretty optimistic I can rock 'n roll."

## Assets

Lloyd, one of the largest landowners in Austin with more than 5,000 acres of prime Presidential sites north and west of the Texas capital, was forced to develop a survival strategy in 1987 when a bank called a \$3.5 million note. With 90 days to pay off the loan, Lloyd began advertising residential lots for half price. He paid off the bank within two weeks.

"Things are bad, but they've got to be worse than 50 cents on the dollar," he said. "We said let's jump out ahead — we're going to sell something so cheap that nobody will dispute the fact that it's a helluva deal."

The Coon Rapids, Iowa, native, who estimates his assets at \$200 million and debt at \$170 million, is still using the discount plan to sell about \$1 million worth of land a month.

By liquidating his assets and generating a cash flow, Lloyd has been able to hold his creditors at bay while he waits for the economy to turn.

"I'm like an airplane trying to get across the ocean before the fuel runs out," he quips. "I'm tossing out the luggage, the extra seats, anything that will help me make it to land."

## Deal

The architect-turned-developer, whose fancy hill country homes are a major status symbol, admits that greed prompted the downfall of many in Texas real estate and has led him to the brink of financial disaster.

"People just went nuts," he says. "There was always another deal to do and it was so easy."

Once dubbed "king of the hill country" — an area of east Texas

centered on Austin — Lloyd recalls a party in 1983 at which he and three other investors "flipped" (or traded) 42 lots, and he wound up pocketing \$420,000.

"I got a call a couple of weeks later and they said, 'hey, we're closing this deal. How do you want your check made out?'" he said. "So I made \$420,000, never paid a nickel, never signed my name to a single piece of paper, never even shook anybody's hand. That's the way deals were done."

But in his single largest deal on a land flip, Lloyd said he earned \$7 million in 1984 on an 800-acre site.

"We bought it for \$7,000 an acre and then we turned around and sold it to NPC (Nash-Phillips-Copus) and made about \$7 million and never put a nickel in it," he said. The day we bought it, we had a chance to sell it and make \$17 million, but my partner felt like it was worth more."

## Chinese consumers clean out shops in reaction to inflation

BEIJING, April 20. (Reuters): Widespread panic buying and hoarding in reaction to the worst bout of inflation in China since the Communists came to power in 1949 has cleaned out some shops, forcing them to close.

The national press today gave the sombre statistics about inflation in the first quarter — vegetable prices in major cities rose 49 per cent, with prices of non-essential foodstuffs up more than 24 per cent. This despite official pledges to keep price rises below 10 per cent.

The official China Consumer Daily this week reported panic buying in several provinces with consumer fearing worse rises ahead. Some shops have been cleaned out and been forced to close, it said.

In cities in Hunan province in southern China people queued to buy washing powder, soap, toothpaste, towels and blankets until stocks ran out, with others buying 250 kg (550 pounds) of rice at one time.

## Sales

A shop in Yancheng in Jiangsu last month sold more than 10,000 yuan (\$2,700) worth of soap in one day, against average sales of 400 yuan (\$110). In Jiangxi, stocks of soap, washing powder and even toilet paper ran out quickly.

The newspaper blamed panic buying on widespread fears of still higher prices and hoarding by shops and pedlars trying to exploit the situation.

The People's Daily promised China's one billion people that,

although price hikes were hard to avoid, the government would do all it could to keep the increase below 10 per cent this year.

The national retail price index in the first quarter rose 11 per cent over the same period last year, with an increase of 13.4 per cent in major cities, against 7.3 per cent nationwide for the whole of 1987.

The People's Daily blamed the increases on shortages, a rapid rise in the urban population as farmers leave the land, a drop in land used for vegetable growing and frost in the Yangtze River basin, which cut harvests.

Another reason was illegal price hikes and speculation, "which intensified the nervousness of consumers," it said.

It said Shanghai, Hangzhou and other cities had already started paying subsidies to consumers and special payments would be made to needy residents to compensate for the increases.

## Subsidies

It said subsidies would begin in Beijing within one or two months.

But subsidies of 10 yuan (\$2.70) a month to workers are too little and should be paid to everyone, not only those who hold state jobs, the consumers daily quoted one civil servant as saying.

The price rises put the reformist government in an acute dilemma. Its public was used to almost stationary prices for 30 years following the Communist takeover in 1949.

## Reagan policies blamed for drop in US economic position

WASHINGTON, April 20. (AP): The United States' economic position in the world has declined because of policies adopted during Republican President Ronald Reagan's administration, the Joint Economic Committee of Congress reported today.

The committee, chaired by a Democrat, Senator Paul S. Sarbanes, said in its annual report that the Reagan policies:

## Price

● "produced an overvalued dollar and high real interest rates, encouraging investment and production abroad relative to the United States."

● "failed to 'open' markets abroad for US exports."

● "and failed to support coordinated international actions to improve economic performance among industrial countries, to resolve the Third World debt problem, or to share more equitably the burden of maintaining international security."

However, a minority report by

the committee's Republicans called the US economy "the envy of the world." It suggested that world foreign exchange markets and not trade determine the price of the dollar.

"Demand for dollar assets was particularly strong during the 1980s and US interest rates... were high because the American economy was characterised by strong growth, low inflation, and an improved taxation climate," said the Republicans.

The minority members saw movement toward a big growth in US exports.

## Debt

"These encouraging trends cannot be allowed to be lost," the report said. "Policies designed to further liberalise the international trade system and support for growth promoting actions in our Asian and European partners," their report added.

It also said: "The simple notion that an export is a good developed and produced in one country and

However, the government is committed to overhauling the heavily subsidised pricing system as the only way to make the economy work more efficiently and use resources more sensibly.

Economists say there are deeper causes to the price rises — excessive wages and bonuses paid to powerful workers and extravagance and diversion of investment funds by state enterprises. Reforms are meant to end these abuses.

Another reason is bad management of the money supply since 1984, said a front-page story in the Peking Financial Times on Monday.

"For the last four years, monetary policy has been erratic — tight, then slack, then tight — like a convulsion that has harmed the body politic," it said.

It blamed erratic policies on the State Council, China's cabinet, which it said put short-term objectives ahead of stable money. Since 1984, money issue has exceeded industrial growth, putting too much cash into the system and driving up prices.

Leadership

A Western diplomat said the nightmare for China's leadership was Poland, where rising prices led to widespread riots, excess pay increases, rising foreign debt and a stalling of reforms.

"China is better able to contain unrest than Poland. But if it happened, it would strengthen the hand of those in the leadership who favour a slower pace of reform," he said.

## Dutch discuss new agency for securities

AMSTERDAM, April 20: The Dutch government and the country's three securities exchanges are holding talks over the formation of an independent regulatory body to oversee securities trading in the Netherlands, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The contemplated agency could be in place by October or November. T.E. Westertep, managing director of the Amsterdam-based European Options Exchange said. Westertep, who has been a party to negotiations on the plan, said the EOE, the Amsterdam Stock Exchange and the Amsterdam Financial Futures Market have already agreed to the creation of the new agency.

## Preparations

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Dutch Finance Ministry said it was "premature" to comment on the contemplated oversight panel because the government and the exchanges still are tied up in negotiations over it. A spokesman for the Amsterdam Stock Exchange also said he couldn't comment.

But Westertep said preparations for the new agency are near-

ing completion. He said the formation of the yet unnamed agency would be a step in the direction of an expected overhaul of the 74-year-old Dutch Securities Oversight Act, which he characterised as outdated and ill-equipped to respond to rapidly evolving international financial instruments and markets.

The Finance Ministry spokesman confirmed that the government is changing the 1914 Securities Act, but he wouldn't comment further. Westertep said revamped securities rules could be passed by parliament within a year to 18 months.

## Responsible

Neither he nor the Finance Ministry spokesman could detail what the new rules will entail.

The EOE official said the proposed agency initially would be responsible to the Finance Ministry, which now oversees the Dutch securities industry. Once the 1914 Securities Act is overhauled, the agency could become a statutory arm of the state, he added.

Westertep said the new oversight body would establish

industry guidelines under which the three current exchanges would operate. Day-to-day management of their respective markets, however, would be retained by the exchanges, as would the right to set trading rules. The exchanges' regulations and behaviour would have to comply with the directives of the oversight agency, however, Westertep added.

Some of the areas to be supervised by the agency would include criteria for exchange listings and limits on the size of operators' trading positions. The new agency also would be responsible for behaviour of the exchanges in extraordinary market situations. Westertep said that once the oversight body is established, its regulatory powers would be expanded to include the Amsterdam commodities futures market, which won't initially be covered.

That move would allow the Netherlands to avoid the problem that exists in the US where there is an overlap of power between the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodities Futures Trading Commission.

## GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Initial guarantee: 3% of offers value Closing date: 12 noon, Tuesday, 24.5.88

This tender is open for contractors classified in 2nd, 3rd and 4th categories of construction works.

Tender No. 58/87

Tender's internal No. 841/88

Concerned party: Ministry of Public Health

Requirements: Supply of medical records for new Military Hospital.

Relevant fee: KD40/-

Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value Closing date: 12 noon, Sunday, 5.6.88

Tender No. 9/87

Tender's internal No. 842/88

Concerned party: Ministry of Public Health

Requirements: Supply of refrigerators & kitchen equipment for new military hospital.

Relevant fee: KD50/-



# MARKET PLACE

**Souk Al Watya Kuwait Telephone 2448562.**













بانی جیکروں نے بحفاظت واپسی کے وعدہ پر خود کو حکام کے حوالے کیا

مطالعات حلیمہ کر کے کوہشت گردی کے خلاف کیت حکومت کی سختی اختیار کیا یا جاری ہے

طیارے کے اغواء کا منصوبہ ایک مفروضہ طرزم سے تیار کیا

الجزیرہ - ۲۰ اپریل (پ) - الجزیرہ میں امریکہ کے شریک جہان میں شہرستان سال کے جواب میں امریکہ کو قیدی طیارے کے بانی جیکروں کو اغواء کے منصوبے میں لائے کا مطالبہ کریں گے۔ اور ہم الجزیرہ کی حکومت سے رابطہ کر کے ہونے پر اور وہ ہمارے تعاون سے کام لیا۔ البی جیکروں نے امریکی شہر سے فوجی ہائیڈرو جیکروں کا قیدی طیارے کے خلاف پختہ وقت کی جیت قرار دیا باقی دوسرے صفحہ پر

# ایران کی جانب سے کویت پر اسرائیل کا حملہ

کویت کا شدید احتجاج، اقوام متحدہ کو اجازت کی تفصیل سے آگاہ کرنا

کویت - ۲۰ اپریل (ک) - کویت کی وزارت دفاع کے ایک سرکاری ذریعے نے اسرائیل کی جانب سے کویت کی طرف سے کویت کے خلاف اسرائیل کی فوجوں پر بمباری کے حملے کی تصدیق کی ہے۔

اسرائیل نے مزید آٹھ فلسطینیوں کو قتل کر کے کویت کی سرحدوں سے اسرائیل کی فوجوں پر بمباری کے حملے کی تصدیق کی ہے۔

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# عرب ٹائمز

## مشرق وسطیٰ میں شائع ہونے والا پہلا اردو اخبار

ہجرات ۱۴ اپریل ۱۹۸۸ء - ۵ رمضان المبارک ۱۴۰۸ھ - قیمت ایک روپیہ - اشاعتی ادارہ

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SPORTS

# Baltimore tie record for losses

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 20, (AP) — Baltimore tied a Major League record with its 13th straight loss from the start of the season last night as Paul Molitor hit a three-run homer to help the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Orioles 9-5.

The visiting Orioles equalled the losing streaks of the Washington Senators in 1904 and the Detroit Tigers in 1920.

The franchise record for consecutive defeats is 14. Once in Baltimore in 1954, and twice when the team was based in St. Louis.

Baltimore, struggling to score runs and with a .186 team batting average entering the game, took a 3-0 lead in the first inning, but then collapsed in the field en route to its seventh straight loss under manager Frank Robinson. Robinson took over for Cal Ripken Sr., who was fired last week.

"We played good baseball for four games and what we had not done is hit. Tonight we go out and score three and give them two right back and it's downhill from there," Robinson said.

The Orioles committed four errors, including three in a three-run Milwaukee fifth inning, as "our of the Brewers' runs were unearned."

Orioles starter Mark Thurmond, 0-2, couldn't hold the early 3-0 lead and the Brewers went ahead 5-3 in the second when Molitor hit his first homer of the season, a 430-foot shot to left field.

"I think it's overrated. We're going out and playing as hard as we can. We're trying to make positive things happen," Thurmond said.

**Langers 3, Indians 0:** Jose Guzman pitched six shutout innings and Larry Parr drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single as Texas beat Cleveland 3-0, ending the Indians' five-game winning streak.

The loss was only the second in the last 13 games for the Indians, who at 11-3 are off to their best start since 1966.

Guzman, 2-1, struck out three and walked one and allowed only one single in six innings despite having been bothered by the flu for several days. Rookie Jose Leones pitched 2-1 in three innings and Mitch Williams got the last two outs for his fifth save.

**Jose Jays 12, Royals 3:** Jesse Barfield hit a grand slam to cap a seven-run third inning and Jim Clancy tied a club record with 12 strikeouts, leading Toronto over Kansas City Royals 12-3.

Clancy, 1-2, tied the mark established by Pete Vuckovich versus Baltimore on July 26, 1977. Clancy pitched seven innings and allowed six hits.

**Bret Saberhagen, 1-2,** pitched over nine innings and allowed five hits.

**Red Sox 7, Tigers 3:** Roger Clemens struck out 11 in eight innings as Boston beat Detroit and Jack Morris 7-3.

Clemens, 3-0, allowed seven hits en route to his first career victory at Tiger stadium. Clemens struck out at least 10 for the third time in four starts and leads the American League with 44 strikeouts.

**Results**

National League	Chicago	1
Pittsburgh	3	St. Louis
Cincinnati	6	San Francisco
Philadelphia	10	New York
Atlanta	5	Houston

**American League**

Baltimore <th>5</th>	5
Texas	3
Milwaukee	9
Boston	7
Toronto	12
Chicago	7
Seattle	8
Oakland	8

**Accurate**

Bitto joined Adnan and both the batsmen played cautiously against some tight and accurate bowling from the Siddique XI players. Adnan and Bitto put on 47 runs for the second wicket before Adnan, trying to play across the line of the ball, was bowled for 35 with the total score at 77.

A middle-order collapse followed in which Capri lost three quick wickets and Capri seemed to be in some sort of trouble at 97 or the loss of their top five batsmen. Bitto Singh, however, seemed to be keeping his end intact.

Sajid (30), with two sixes, and Sarfraz (21) gave Bitto Singh

## LENDL BACK ON COURT AFTER TWO MONTHS

# Becker and Sanchez upset in Open

MONTE CARLO, April 20, (Reuters) — Boris Becker tumbled out of the Monte Carlo Open in his first match for the second successive year yesterday, a victim of competent Czechoslovak Marian Vajda and problems of concentration in his adopted Mediterranean home.

Vajda stopped a late revival by the former Wimbledon champion, who rallied to square the match after all had seemed lost in the second set, but crumbled in the third to lose their second round contest 6-3 5-7 6-1.

Sweden's Joakim Nystrom, Monte Carlo champion in 1986, reached the third round with a 6-3 7-6 victory over Michiel Schapers of the Netherlands along with compatriot Ulf Stenlund, a semifinalist last year, and Frenchman Henri Leconte, victor of the Nice Open last Sunday.

**Exit**

But eighth-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain passed through the exit door like third seed Becker, beaten 6-3 6-3 by the West German's compatriot Tore Meinecke.

Becker, bundled out in straight sets by American Jimmy Arias last year, looked destined for a similarly rapid eclipse when Vajda swept to a 4-1 lead in the second set with two service breaks and moved to within two points of victory at 5-4.

But Becker turned the match round, reeling off five straight games to take the second set and a 1-0 lead in the decisive third as he began to hit the ball with more of his customary vigour and stemmed a flow of errors.



Lendl: wins doubles match

Vajda, however, refused to be overrun, patiently pieced back together the solid game which had worked so well until Becker's revival, and denied the new World Championship Tennis (WCT) tournament victor a single game more.

Becker, who showed his frustration in several angry outbursts, said the demands of Monte Carlo had made it hard to concentrate.

"The problem was I had to do so many things here," he said, listing contractual demands, press interviews and attending the draw among them.

"I was playing tennis but my mind wasn't so much there. My forehead wasn't good. The guy played very well, but it's more in my mind than his playing... I just couldn't get my game together."

Vajda, ranked 42nd in the world, revealed afterwards that he had suffered stomach trouble two days ago and had been sick all night before Monday's first round match against Australian Mark Woodford.

"Boris didn't play a tactical game. I played a little better tactically. I was more patient in the rallies, maybe that's the reason I won," he said.

"I felt I could hit the ball 100 times over the net and I couldn't miss... Boris is a typical grass-court and hardcourt player. It's difficult for him."

Becker said he lacked practice on clay. "You really have to have a couple of matches under your belt to fight it out. My groundstrokes were very bad. The longer the rallies were, the worse I played."

"My natural game is serve and volley and finish in two points. Here it takes a bit longer."

Meanwhile, world number one Ivan Lendl, sidelined two months by injury, returned to the Grand Prix tennis circuit yesterday with a doubles win in the Open and declared no ill effects after the outing.

Lendl and French partner Henri Leconte, defeated Lendl's Czechoslovak compatriots Stanislav Birner and Jaro Navratil 6-3 6-4 in a first round match sprinkled by rain.

"It was okay. I enjoyed it but it

was hard. It was raining a little but it was better than nothing," Lendl said, adding that he felt better still after a massage.

Lendl had not played on the Grand Prix circuit since he was beaten early in the Philadelphia tournament by Australian John Fitzgerald on February 23.

A stress fracture on a bone under his right big toe was later diagnosed. "Not everybody has that bone, but they think sometimes it develops and then calcifies," he said.

He said his foot felt good and he had no physical or psychological problems. "It's just going to be a question of playing matches."

Asked how long he expected it would take to get back into form, he replied: "Maybe one set, maybe three weeks. You never know. It depends on luck a little bit also."

### Eroded

The reigning French and US Open champion has seen his lead at the top of the world rankings eroded in his absence by Sweden's Mats Wilander, but believes the lay-off might prove a benefit.

He said his foot felt good and he had no physical or psychological problems. "It's just going to be a question of playing matches."

Asked how long he expected it would take to get back into form, he replied: "Maybe one set, maybe three weeks. You never know. It depends on luck a little bit also."

## World yacht race lineup stands at 38

LONDON, April 20, (Reuters) — Eighteen months from the start of the gruelling Whitbread round the world yacht race, 38 international crews have entered the contest.

The 33,000 race will take in some of the world's most difficult sailing waters, including Cape Horn and the southern oceans.

"This race will be one of the most competitive ever held," yachtsman Bob Fisher told a news conference yesterday. "It's longer than previous years, it's mostly downwind, and it's going to be very fast."

The yachts will leave Portsmouth, on the English south coast, on September 2, 1989, sail to Punta Del Este, Uruguay, and then to Fremantle, Australia.

They will travel from there to Auckland, New Zealand, then back to Uruguay, on to Fort Lauderdale and will finish at Portsmouth in May 1990.

### Record

The past four races have included a stop in the South African port of Cape Town, but this has been dropped for political reasons, race committee chairman Rear Admiral Charles Williams said.

Britain's Royal Naval Sailing Association, organiser of the race, hopes the Fort Lauderdale stop will attract more US interest.

The Swiss winner of the 1985 race, Pierre Felmann, has already entered the 1989 contest. Last time Felmann finished in a record 117 days in the Ubs Switzerland.

British pop singer Simon le Bon and his boat Drum attracted considerable publicity for the 1985 race. Race organisers say skip Novak, who skipped Drum, is the top American challenger for 1989.

The smallest yacht to enter so far is the 51 foot 15.5 metre) La Poste, crewed by French postmen.

# Everton struggle past Coventry

LONDON, April 20, (AP) — English soccer champions Everton, who were set to lose their title to Liverpool this evening, gained some consolation yesterday with a 2-1 victory at Coventry City, last season's FA (Football Association) Cup winners.

In other First Division games, F.A. Cup finalist Wimbledon grabbed a late equaliser to tie 2-2 with struggling Portsmouth, virtually doomed Walsley, 1-1 with Newcastle United and Luton Town edged Queens Park Rangers 2-1.

Cyrille Regis fired Coventry ahead with a 20-metre strike in the 26th minute and looked set to seal the victory for the second time this season.

But the champion hit back late in the game with two goals in two minutes through Scottish international Graeme Sharp (85 minutes) and Adrian Heath (87).

Dennis Wise scored both Wimbledon's goals against Portsmouth, which had come from

behind to lead 2-1 despite the loss of goalkeeper Alan Knight after only two minutes.

Knight was stretched off following a collision with Wimbledon's John Fashanu. But after Wise had scored past stand-in goalkeeper Lee Sandford, Portsmouth hit back with goals by Paul Mariner and Kevin Dillon.

Wimbledon's second goal came seven minutes from time to deny Portsmouth — second from bottom in the standings — two more precious points.

Luton, who face Arsenal in the Littlewoods Cup final at Wembley on Sunday, was boosted by a victory over Queens Park Rangers in the battle of the two sides that play their home games on artificial turf.

Two of the goals came from penalties. Danny Wilson firing Luton ahead in the 16th minute after Alan McDonald handled and David Kerslake levelling in the 59th. Luton captain Steve

Foster headed the winner a minute later from a free kick.

At Watford, the home side's slim chances of survival were boosted by a goal from Welsh international Kenny Jackett in the 14th minute. But Newcastle's John Anderson scored direct from a 20-metre free kick in the 57th minute to equalise.

Violence erupted at a Second Division match between relegation threatened Huddersfield town and visiting Oldham Athletic when a linesman was attacked and injured by fans.

Linesman George Lyner was stretched off with a facial injury and two fans were arrested after he was attacked for refusing to award a corner kick to the home side.

As a result of his decision, the visitor broke out to score an equaliser and tied the match at 2-2.

Meanwhile England forward John Barnes was missing from the Liverpool squad named yes-

terday for the evening's match at Norwich. A win will give Liverpool their 17th English soccer championship.

Barnes, ever-present for Liverpool this season, suffered a groin injury during the English League centenary festival at the weekend.

Danish international Jan Molby was also out of the 14-player squad. He has a calf injury.

### Results

English Division One	Everton	2
Coventry	1	QPR
Luton	2	Newcastle
Watford	1	Portsmouth
Wimbledon	2	Portsmouth
English Division Two	Milwall	2
Bohemians	1	Halifax
Huddersfield	2	Oldham
Sheff U	1	Plymouth
English Division Three	Aldershot	0
Chesham	2	Brentford
English Division Four	Bolton	0
Cambridge	1	Hartlepool
Carlisle	1	Halifax
Colchester	1	Hereford
Stockport	1	Darlington
Torquay	6	Newport

# Celtics too strong for Pistons

BOSTON, April 20, (AP) — Kevin McHale matched his season high of 33 points and Robert Parish scored 25 as the Boston Celtics defeated Detroit 121-110 last night and won the battle with the Pistons for homecourt advantage throughout the NBA's Eastern Conference playoffs.

The home team has won the last 17 games between the two teams. Boston has won its last 22 home games — one in Hartford, Conn. — against the Pistons. Detroit has won its last eight home games against the Celtics.

Boston broke a two-game losing streak, both on the road, and improved its record to 56-23, while Detroit fell to 52-27. With each team having three regular-season games left, the Pistons cannot pass the Celtics for the conference's best record.

The Celtics took the lead for

good at 10-8. A 12-2 run put the Celtics ahead 18-10, and they led 31-24 after one quarter.

Leading 52-43, Boston got nine of the next 11 points, all on free throws, to take a 61-45 advantage. The lead was 61-47 at intermission and ranged from 11 to 26 points the rest of the way.

**Bulls 121, Knicks 118**

Michael Jordan scored 15 of his 47 points in the fourth quarter as the Chicago Bulls withstood a 43-point New York barrage to beat the Knicks 121-118.

The Bulls' seventh consecutive road victory dropped the Knicks into eighth place in the Eastern Conference, one-half game behind Washington and one-half game ahead of Indiana. Eight teams make the playoffs in each conference when the regular season ends Sunday.

The score was tied for the 13th time, 65-65, before Scottie Pippen keyed a 21-10 spurt with nine points in the last 4:42 of the third quarter, giving Chicago the lead for good at 86-85.

**Hawks 119, Nets 109**

Dominique Wilkins had 32 points and the Atlanta Hawks outscored New Jersey 12-2 in overtime to hand the Nets their 14th consecutive loss, 119-109, and their 20th loss in 26 games since Willis Reed took over as coach Feb 29.

**Results**

Boston	121	Detroit	110
Atlanta	119	New Jersey	109
Chicago	121	New York	116
Philadelphia	115	Milwaukee	102
Dallas	104	Houston	96
LA Lakers	133	San Antonio	126
Denver	134	Seattle	114
Phoenix	122	Golden State	107
Utah	129	Portland	122
Sacramento	130	LA Clippers	105

# Internazionale seek Madjer

MILAN, Italy, April 20, (AP) — Italian Major League Internazionale of Milan is seeking Algerian striker Rabah Madjer for the next season but negotiations are being hampered by an existing general agreement for the transfer of Porto's striker to Bayern Munich.

"We would like to sign Madjer, but we don't want to get involved in a controversy with Bayern," a spokesman for the Milanese soccer club said today.

"If Bayern gives up its option on Madjer we are ready to sign him," the spokesman added.

Inter has been trying to avoid any controversy with Bayern as it is negotiating with the German club transfer of midfielder Lothar Matthaus.

The German national will sign a three-year contract with the Milanese club tomorrow.

# Capri outclass Siddique for title

CAPRI Cricket Club defeated Siddique XI by 30 runs in the finals of the Capri Cricket League Tournament to take the crown earlier this week at the Fahaheel Industrial Area ground.

Capri's skipper Tauseef won the toss and opted to make first use of the wicket. This decision seemed to pay dividends as Capri started on a good note through Adnan and Raju who put on 30 runs for the first wicket before the latter was bowled by Amjad for 14.

Accurate

Bitto joined Adnan and both the batsmen played cautiously against some tight and accurate bowling from the Siddique XI players. Adnan and Bitto put on 47 runs for the second wicket before Adnan, trying to play across the line of the ball, was bowled for 35 with the total score at 77.

A middle-order collapse followed in which Capri lost three quick wickets and Capri seemed to be in some sort of trouble at 97 or the loss of their top five batsmen. Bitto Singh, however, seemed to be keeping his end intact.

Sajid (30), with two sixes, and Sarfraz (21) gave Bitto Singh



Bitto Singh (left) receives the Man of the Match award.

some good support to take Capri's score to 197 in 28 overs. Bitto top-scored with 76 which included two sixes and five fours.

For Siddique, Tariq, Khalid and Mukesh bowled well to take two wickets each.

Siddique, requiring seven runs

per over, started their innings on an aggressive note with Amjad and Tariq putting on 35 runs in only four overs. But after this initial burst, the wickets started falling at regular intervals and Siddique were only able to score 167 for the loss of seven wickets

in their allotted overs.

Shazi was the top-scorer for Siddique with 52 while Amjad hit 32 and Asif 18. For Capri, Naresh bowled well to take four wickets.

Bitto Singh was named Man of the Match.



Navratilova: had an easy time

# Navratilova thrashes Budarova in opener

HOUSTON, April 20, (AP) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova overpowered Iva Budarova of Czechoslovakia 7-5, 6-1 last night in a first-round match at the \$250,000 Virginia Slims-Houston tennis tournament.

Navratilova needed only a little more than an hour to beat Budarova for the sixth consecutive time. She has lost only once in 13 sets.

### Rebounded

Earlier yesterday, second-seeded Chris Evert lost her serve in the first game of the match but rebounded to beat Maria Lindstrom of Sweden 6-2 6-2 in a first-round match.

Evert beat Navratilova in last year's finals.

Lindstrom, who lost to Evert 6-0, 6-0 in their only other meeting in 1986, broke the defending champion in the first game when Evert's backhand sailed wide at break point.

Evert broke back in the second

game, aided by the first of three double faults by Lindstrom in the match, and broke her again in the fourth and eighth games to end the first set.

Evert broke Lindstrom in the second game of the final set and took a 3-0 lead.

Lindstrom held after two deuces in the sixth game but Evert ended the match and another service break in the eighth game.

After returning two overhands by Lindstrom, Evert took the set to match point with a forehand passing shot and on the next point, Lindstrom hit a forehand into the net to end it.

In other first round matches seventh seeded Patricia Tarabini of Argentina, defeated Andrea Holikova of Czechoslovakia, 6-1, 6-3. Dinky van Rensburg, South Africa, beat Donna Faber of the United States, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3 and Carrie Cunningham defeated fellow American Tammy Whittington, 6-2, 7-5.

# Salov draws level with Karpov after 15th round

BRUSSELS, April 20, (AP) — Valery Salov moved level on points with fellow Soviet Anatoly Karpov after the 15th round of the chess World Cup yesterday, but Karpov remains the tournament favourite because he has one extra game to play.

Karpov, a 36-year-old who held the World Championship title for 10 years until 1985, agreed to a draw with Hungarian grandmaster Gyula Sax after only 11 moves to reach a total of 9.5 points out of a possible 14.

Salov, 23, scored a crushing victory over American grandmaster Yasser Seirawan when he unleashed a brilliant counterattack with the black pieces.

Salov has 9.5 points out of 15 with one game remaining, while Karpov has two more to play.

English grandmaster John Nunn moved within striking distance of the Soviets after demolishing Belgian international master Luc Winants in 27 moves.

Nunn had 8.5 points out of 13 and an unfinished game with Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman which is expected to end in a draw.

Karpov is likely to defeat tail-enders Winants in the 16th and penultimate round this evening, grandmaster said.

"If Karpov defeats Winants, he will only need a draw in the final round to be sure of first

place. The big fight is going to be between Salov and Karpov," commented Bjarke Kristensen, a Danish international master.

The tournament is the first of six competitions spread over two years involving the world's top 25 players.

Organised by the Grandmasters' Association and featuring a total prize fund of \$1.2 million, each grandmaster will compete in four events.

The player with the best three scores will be declared world tournament champion by the association.

World champion Garry Kasparov will commence his challenge for Cup in the second tournament in Belfort, France in June.

In the other games, Viktor Korchnoi, a Soviet defector who now plays for Switzerland defeated Jesus Nogueiras of Cuba, but remained in 15th place.

The game between fourth placed Alexander Beliavsky and Ljubomir Ljubojevic of Yugoslavia ended in a draw as did the encounter between Yugoslav grandmaster Predrag Nikolic and Mikhail Tal of the Soviet Union.

The game between Andrei Sokolov of the Soviet Union and Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman was adjourned with Sokolov a pawn ahead in an endgame.

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## MIANDAD HAMMERS FINE CENTURY

## Pakistan hold West Indies to draw

PORT OF SPAIN, April 20, (Reuters): Pakistani number-eleven Abdul Qadir kept out the last five balls of the last over, bowled by Viv Richards, to prevent a dramatic last-minute victory for West Indies in the second Test here yesterday.

When the last of the mandatory 20 overs began, West Indies still needed two wickets with Pakistan on 341 for 8, having given up chasing their target of 372. But Salim Yousuf, who had been batting without any real difficulty for over 21 overs, lost his concentration and was lbw to a Richards full toss for 35.

**Threatened**  
Qadir, however, showed great composure in playing out Richard's over to save the game for Pakistan, who had at one stage threatened to win it.

When Javed Miandad and Ijaz Ahmed were at the crease, having guided Pakistan to 282-5, only 90 runs more were required with 22 overs remaining.

Javed's magnificent 102, scored off 265 balls, was another remarkable exhibition of concentration. He hit only eight fours and a five but accumulated

his runs remorselessly after lunch, having added only 22 runs in the morning to his overnight 19.

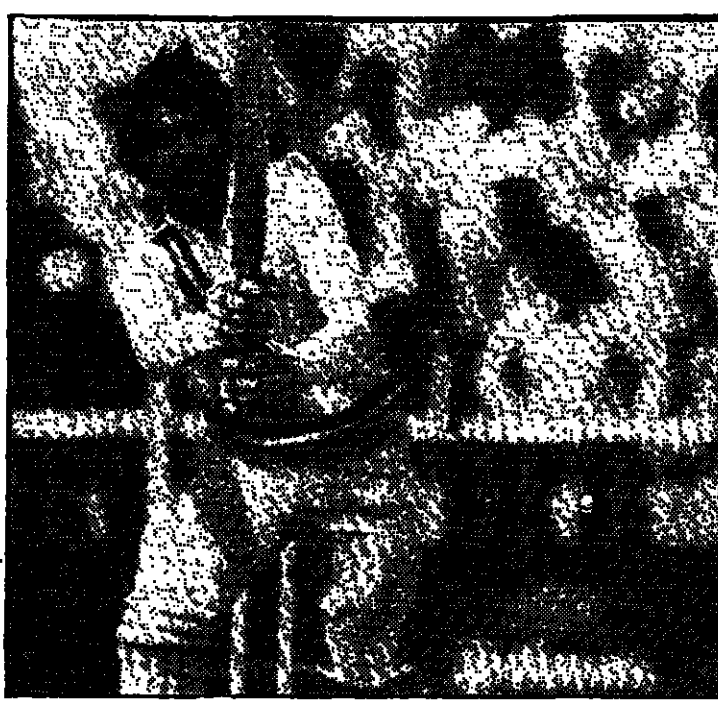
The morning session had not gone well for the West Indies who bowled waywardly and also conceded 24 extras. Pakistan managed to add only 60 in 23 overs bowled losing Salim Malik who offered no stroke to Courtney and was lbw for 30 when the ball cut back.

Imran Khan, however, was dismissed third ball after lunch when he edged a ball from Winston Benjamin that swung away late. Dujon took the catch.

Ijaz Ahmed was lucky to survive a distinctly nervous start but grew in confidence and stayed with Javed for 155 minutes adding 113 of which Ijaz contributed 43.

Ijaz was brilliantly stumped by Dujon down the leg side off Viv Richards, who had bravely brought himself on to break the partnership.

Javed's marathon 436 minute innings, however, ended in the next over when he was caught low at first slip by Richards off Curtley Ambrose, who bowled a



Miandad: magnificent 102

superb spell after tea. The West Indies captain, having taken the catch, ran all the way to the boundary, no doubt as relieved as he was jubilant.

When, immediately after, the

final 20 overs began, Pakistan were 288-7. They lost Wasim Akram for two with 13 overs left when Richie Richardson made a fine diving catch at backward point off Marshall. Yousuf and

Faqih then defended bravely until Richards' dramatic final over.

## Scoreboard

WEST INDIES first innings 174 (V. Richards 49, Imran 4-38, Qadir 4-83).

PAKISTAN first innings 194 (S. Malik 66, Marshall 4-55).

WEST INDIES second innings 391 (V. Richards 123, J. Dujon 106 n.o., Imran 5-115).

PAKISTAN second innings: Rameez c Richards b Marshall — 44

Mudassar c Dujon b Benjamin — 13

Shoaib Mohammad b Benjamin — 0

Miandad c Richards b Ambrose — 102

Salim Malik lbw b Walsh — 30

Imran Khan c Dujon b Benjamin — 1

Ijaz Ahmed st Dujon b Richards — 43

Salim Yousuf lbw b Richards — 35

Wasim Akram c Richardson — 3

b Marshall — 2

Ijaz Faqih not out — 10

Abdul Qadir not out — 6

Extras (lb17, lb17, nb25, w2) — 61

Total (for nine wickets) — 341

Fall: 1-60, 2-62, 3-67, 4-153, 5-169, 6-282, 7-288, 8-311, 9-340

Bowling: Marshall 30-4-85-2, Ambrose 30-7-62-1, Walsh 29-8-52-1, Benjamin 32-9-73-3, Hooper 4-1-18-0, Richards 4-1-17-2.

## W.Germany braces for invasion of fans

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, April 20, (Reuters): If soccer thugs want a fight, West Germany won't be the place for it.

That's the message West German officials are sending out as they brace themselves for the invasion of tens of thousands of fans from seven countries for the European Championship finals in June.

"Ninety-nine per cent of the fans will be coming for sheer love and enthusiasm for the game," said Wolfgang Niersbach, spokesman for the organising committee which has put together an unprecedented package of measures to combat hooliganism. "The other one per cent is not going to have it easy."

Of the 15 matches spread over eight cities between June 10 and 25, the one which most worries organisers is the England-Netherlands tie in Dusseldorf.

## Proved

English clubs have been barred from European Football Union (UEFA) competition since riots killed 39 people at the 1985 European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus in the Heysel stadium in Brussels.

Dutch gangs, using homemade bombs filled with glass and razor blades, have proved that the violence once dubbed "the English disease" is no longer confined to one side of the North Sea and fans in Spain and Italy have also been regularly involved in fighting.

Organisers, blaming a lack of segregation of rival fans for the Heysel disaster, plan to deploy

600 uniformed police and another 600 security officers at each match.

"Our top priority is to keep opposing supporters apart, even if that means we won't be selling all the tickets," Niersbach said.

Organising committee chief Hermann Neuberger added: "Our security presence will not be provocative but everyone should also know that we will be ready to move in and take any action that is necessary to prevent trouble."

Crush-barriers at the stadiums have been strengthened and "panic gates" built to allow spectators to escape in the event of a riot or an accident.

Video-cameras will monitor any trouble and fans will be searched at the turnstiles. Large banners and flags, designated potentially dangerous weapons, will be confiscated.

An alcohol ban at the grounds will extend even to dignitaries and journalists.

Participating countries have been making a joint effort to stamp out trouble even before the first kick-off.

A computer directory of known trouble-makers has been set up and police will shepherd English fans all the way to West Germany.

Tickets, issued through national federations, are being sold only to official groups in most countries. "English fans must fill in a questionnaire to obtain tickets," the English Football Association (F.A.) said, and Dutch supporters are being issued with identity cards.



## Botham ends trek in Turin

TURIN, Italy, April 20, (AP): An English cricket star who retraced the ancient Alpine trail of Hannibal and his elephants to promote leukemia research, finished his trek here yesterday afternoon.

Ian Botham and his Indian elephants, Dido and Tali, marched into this northern industrial city about 4:30 p.m. (1430 GMT), concluding a 500-mile, 21-day crossing of the Alps that began March 29 in Perpignan, France.

Escorted by mounted police, Botham and his elephants marched through the historic centre where they were greeted by mayor Maria Magnani Noya and a crowd of about 750 people. But unlike Hannibal's beasts, Botham's elephants rode most of the way in a truck, walking only through the inhabited towns on the trip.

## Swear

Hannibal, who was born in 247, was forced by his father, a high-ranking Carthaginian general, to swear his eternal hostility to Rome. He became the commander of the Carthaginian Army at age 26. Then five years later, he left with infantry, cavalry and 38 elephants to conquer Rome, circling around through the Alps.

In the difficult crossing of the Alps, Hannibal had to overcome constant guerrilla attacks, a dangerous route and treacherous weather. Five months after his departure from Carthage, with only half his men and animals left, he reached what is now Turin and stormed the city.

The trip was Botham's trek designed to raise money for leukemia research. He hopes it will raise £5 million (\$9 million).

## New job for Michel Platini

GENEVA, April 20, (Reuters): Michel Platini, captain of 1984 European champions France, will play a new role as the European Football Union's (UEFA's) ambassador during this year's championships in West Germany.

He will also combine the job of technical adviser to UEFA president Jacques Georges for the June tournament.

Platini, spearheading a campaign against drugs and doping in sport, is expected to join UEFA's technical committee after their June congress.

## Long condemns selectors

LONDON, April 20, (Reuters): Marathon runner Dave Long today condemned Britain's athletics selectors for not choosing him to run in the Seoul Olympic Games and instead going for Olympic bronze medallist Charlie Spedding.

On Sunday, Long, 27, had come in five places ahead of Spedding in the official Olympic trial, the London marathon, and as the third Briton to finish assumed he would be automatically selected for the Olympic team.

"I am angry and fed up," he said. "There is no logic to the decision as far as I am concerned. I beat Charlie fair and square in the trial, and what more could I do?"

"The selectors didn't even have the guts to ring me up and tell me themselves. I only found out about it through the press and it is disgusting that they haven't got the courtesy or courage to come on to me with the news."

Spedding's experience and proven big race record were the key to his selection.

Lebow said that in the last several years' greater emphasis has been placed on marathon training in Africa, and the environment there is almost guaranteed to give African runners an edge.

"They are training at a very high altitudes, they are eating a lot of grains," said Lebow. "We have to assume that the elevation, the diet has a lot to do with it."

Lebow said he was particularly impressed with Hussein and Ikangaa. "They are both very smart. They are two of the smartest runners I have ever seen."

Scottish runner Raymond Hubbard holds up his three marathon medals and his running shoes after he arrived back in Scotland. Hubbard ran three marathons in three days. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Conservatives urge BAAB to ignore IAAF instructions

## Thatcher speaks in support of Budd

LONDON, April 20, (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, in her first public comment on the affair, yesterday denounced as "repugnant" efforts by the leaders of world track and field to put an end to the running career of South African-born Zola Budd.

As she spoke, most of Thatcher's fellow Conservatives urged British track authorities to ignore a mandate to ban Budd for at least a year, while the same number of opponents from the Labour party signed a motion urging them to punish her.

## Restricts

At prime minister's question time in the House of Commons, the elected lower house, Thatcher repeated Britain's commitment to the Geneagles agreement, which restricts sporting links with South Africa.

But she came out unequivocally in support of 21-year-old Budd, who became a British subject four years ago, being allowed to pursue her running career.

"A number of us find it rather repugnant that so much effort is now concerned with stopping a young woman competing in international athletics," Thatcher said.

On Sunday, the British Amateur Athletics Board will decide whether to suspend Budd for a minimum of 12 months for links to South Africa — barred from the sport for its apartheid policies — or risk the entire British track and field squad missing the Seoul Olympics.

At a meeting in London last Saturday, the sport's world governing body ruled that unless the BAAB agreed to carry out its request to ban the athlete, it would have to consider "exercising its suspensive powers."

The International Amateur Athletic Federation gave the British board 30 days to respond and said that, in the meantime, Budd would be ineligible to compete anywhere in the world.

Budd, criticised by opponents for spending too much time back

in her homeland since emigrating to Britain in March, 1984, claims she was only a spectator at a domestic South African meet in June last year.

But the IAAF's 23-member ruling council, while admitting that Budd did not run and had broken no rules, said she had "taken part" just by being there and had broken, at the very least, "the spirit of the rules."

As the affair spilled into the British parliament, Conservative lawmakers signed a motion urging Thatcher to call on the BAAB to reject the IAAF council recommendation.

## Victim

"This form of blackmail in international sport is totally unacceptable, particularly where the victim is totally innocent of any offence," the motion read.

But Labour party members put forward a second motion asking the government to apply "maximum pressure" to secure Budd's suspension. Their motion described Budd as "a

parasite on British sport with a passport of convenience."

Meanwhile, it was emerging that more British athletes were opposed to Budd being reinstated than putting at risk the British Olympic team.

"Budd is getting some sympathy but not support," said athletes' representative Mike Winch, who will be addressing Sunday's BAAB meeting.

"A consensus is emerging which has surprised me," Winch said. "All but one (athlete) has told me that they feel Budd should not be supported if it means everyone missing out on Seoul. There's sympathy for her, particularly from some of the women. (But) the majority opinion is that the board should not back her at the expense of all the other athletes."

Winch said he thought Sunday's meeting, at a downtown London hotel, would be fierce and close.

"It could go either way but I suspect the council could support the IAAF demand," he said.

## Sochaux hold Montpellier

PARIS, April 20, (Reuters): Second Division Sochaux held First Division Montpellier to a 2-2 draw and Reims beat Le Havre 2-0 yesterday in the first leg of the third round of the French Soccer Cup.

Sochaux were inspired by two goals from Stephane Paille against Montpellier, who are equal sixth in the First Division. Julio Cesar put Montpellier head after 38 minutes with a 40-metre drive and Roger Milla added the second.

Le Havre, bottom of the First Division, went down to Second Division Reims in a lacklustre match.

## Ethiopian Games boycott not final

AMSTERDAM, April 20, (Reuters): Ethiopia's Olympic boycott decision is still not final, one of their national coaches said today.

"We have not yet fully decided on the boycott of Seoul. Our Olympic committee has instructed us to prepare the athletes to compete and if everything can be worked out we will be there," national marathon coach, Nigussie Roba told Reuters today.

## Chance

"I sincerely hope the two Koreas can sort out their differences and we can then take part. With our athletes' form we have a good chance of winning," he said.

He said the Ethiopian government would probably decide about the Olympics fairly soon.

Roba was speaking from the team's hotel in Rotterdam. On Sunday 23-year-old Addis Ababa police lieutenant, Belayneh Dinsamo, carved 22 seconds off the world best time in the Rotterdam marathon, recording two hours six minutes and 50 seconds.

Dinsamo won last year's Rotterdam marathon in the slowest time in the race's short history with a time of 2:12:58.

As 1987 winner, Dinsamo had always been down to compete in this year's event with three other members of the Ethiopian

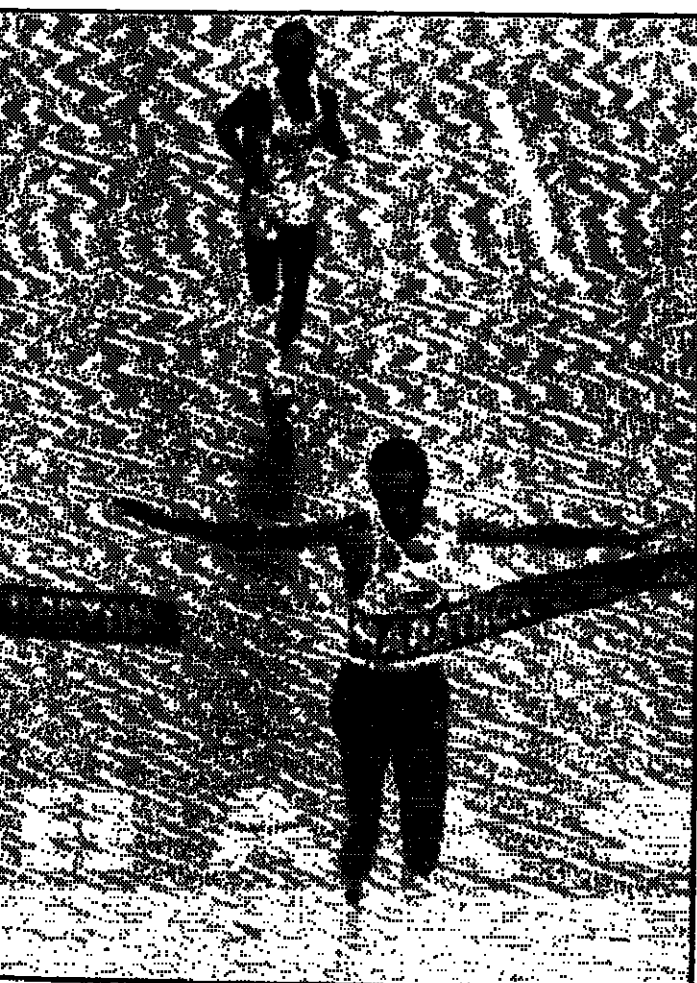
national squad. Another four, led by 1986 Rotterdam winner Abebe Mekonnen, were due to run in Monday's Boston marathon.

At the last moment the national athletics committee pulled all four out of the Boston race, transferring Mekonnen and Wodajo Bult to Rotterdam where Bult came third and Mekonnen fourth.

Roba said the decision was taken because it was discovered that one of the runners entered for Boston was South African.

"We would like to compete with athletes from South Africa, but the situation in that country makes this impossible," Roba added.

## Africans continue to dominate marathons



Hussein crossing the finish line

BOSTON, April 20, (Reuters): Kenyan Ibrahim Hussein's dramatic victory in the Boston marathon was a vivid illustration of the recent dominance of African athletes in one of running's most gruelling events.

Hussein, who on Monday became the first African to win the world's oldest marathon in its 92 year history, achieved the same milestone in the New York marathon five months earlier. On Sunday, another African, Belayneh Dinsamo of Ethiopia, set a world record for the marathon in Rotterdam.

"I don't see a non-African athlete winning a major world marathon for the next few years," said Fred Lebow, president of the New York running club, after the Boston race.

## Success

Lebow told Reuters that motivation seems to have a lot to do with their success in the 26-mile, 385-yard event.

"Africans seem to need the honour of winning more than other athletes," Lebow said.

The 29-year-old Hussein, a former steeplechaser at the University of New Mexico, has now won his last three marathons. His New York win in November was followed six weeks later by this third straight victory in the Honolulu marathon.

This was Hussein's first

attempt at Boston and he won it with a dramatic surge near the finish, beating Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania by only one second, the closest finish in the history of the race.

Hussein's time of two hours eight minutes 43 seconds was also the second fastest time for the race. The course record of 2:07:51 was set by Australia's Rob de Castella in 1986.

Many of the world's top runners competed in this year's Boston marathon, which was the Olympic qualifying trials for Finland, Tanzania and Kenya.

Hussein and Ikangaa, 28, the premier Africans in the race, led the pack from the eight mile mark on.

In the last 100 yards, Ikangaa moved ahead and looked like the sure winner until Hussein kicked ahead to victory.

"I like to make history," said the delighted Hussein after the race. "I think this will convince a lot of people that I can win even if it is a close race."

There may be little question in anyone's mind after this week that an African runner can win a marathon under any condition.

Dinsamo, who has been competing in marathons for only three years, overcame the 92 per cent humidity in Rotterdam on Sunday to set a world record of 2:06:50, bettering the record of 2:07:12 set by Carlo Lopes of

Portugal on the same course three years ago.

"I am not even tired," said Dinsamo, who was also celebrating his second consecutive victory in Rotterdam.

Another African, Ahmed Saleh of Djibouti, took second place at Rotterdam and also broke Lopes' record with a time of 2:07:12.

Dinsamo's time was the first marathon record set by an African since 1964, when Abebe Bikila of Ethiopia ran the Tokyo marathon in 2:12:12.

Since Bikila, although African runners dominated other athletics disciplines, they were rarely the first to cross the finish line in marathons.

Guaranteed  
Lebow said that in the last several years' greater emphasis has been placed on marathon training in Africa, and the environment there is almost guaranteed to give African runners an edge.

"They are training at a very high altitudes, they are eating a lot of grains," said Lebow. "We have to assume that the elevation, the diet has a lot to do with it."

Lebow said he was particularly impressed with Hussein and Ikangaa. "They are both very smart. They are two of the smartest runners I have ever seen."

Portugal on the same course three years ago.

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